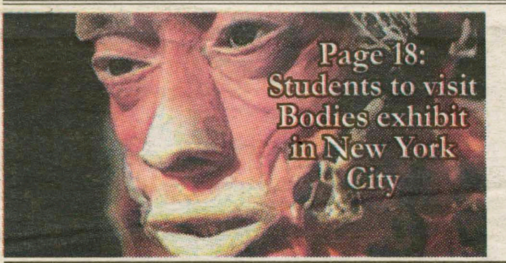

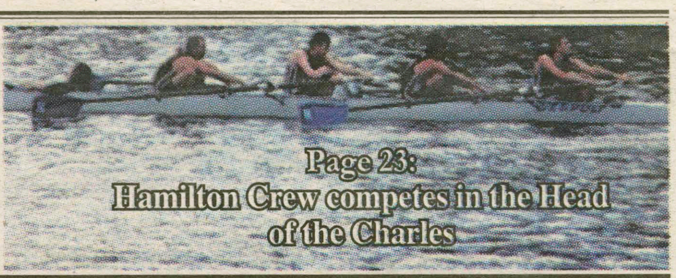

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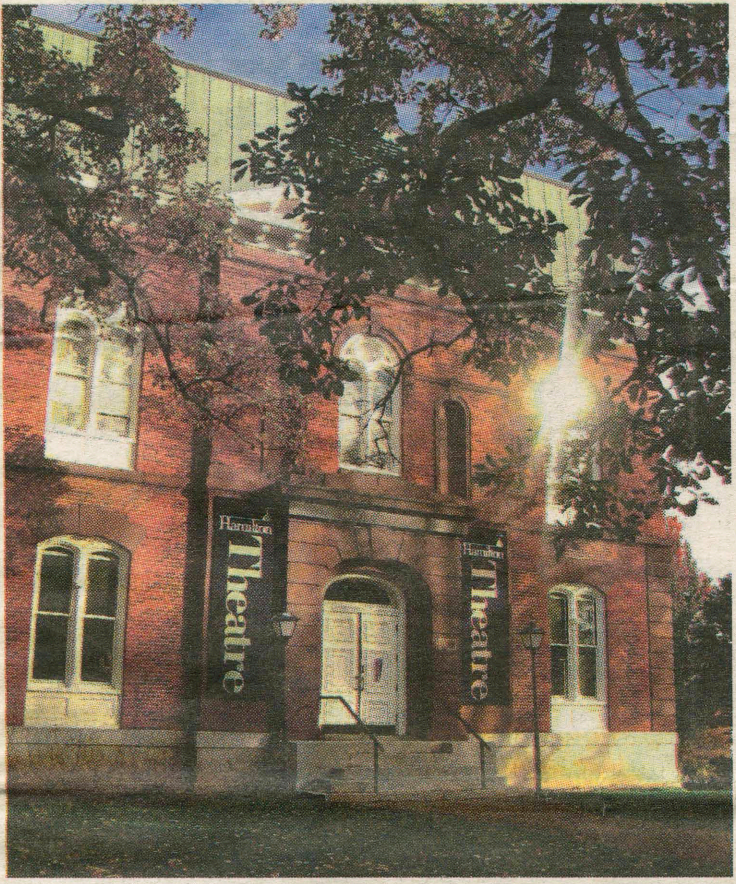
THE SPECTATOR

Plans for Arts Facilities Subject to Major Adjustments



Those involved in the planning of the Art Facilities hope to convert Minor Theater to a museum.

Written and Reported by Martin E. Connor '09
Editor-In-Chief

Assistance in Reporting by Ashley Stagner '09
A&E Contributor

Nearly a year after the Hamilton board of trustees endorsed plans for a three building arts complex and authorized Hamilton College to enter into a contract with project architects for schematic designs for the new center, Hamilton College President Joan Hinde Stewart announced at an open faculty meeting that plans for the new complex will be scaled back due to insufficient funding.

Hamilton's current arts facilities are considered inadequate both by current standards among comparable liberal arts schools and by students and faculty who use the facilities. In fact, discussions for improvement of Hamilton's arts facilities have been underway on the Hill for over two decades.

"Because the List building was designed for a college of 500 students it became clear after the merger between Hamilton and Kirkland that the building would be inadequate to meet the needs of the expanded student body. Since the merger, growing awareness of health and safety hazards associated with the use of art materials has created an even greater sense of urgency about renovating the aging facilities," explained Professor of Art William Salzillo.

Current arts space is spread across campus, with studio and office space in the List Arts Center, theater space in Minor Theater (previously home to Hamilton's library and later its infirmary), and display space in the Emerson Gallery (located in the Christian-Johnson building). The original plans for new arts facilities called for the construction of three new buildings that would have been home to a new theater, new studio and office space, and a new museum and gallery to replace the diminutive Emerson Gallery.

Yet, as Stewart explained at the faculty meeting, since receipt of cost estimates for the complex in August of this year, the College has been forced to reconsider these plans. Estimates from the contractors placed the cost around $80 million, far more than the College had expected, and far more than the College could hope to raise. Fundraising projections fall far short at a mere $35 million, even in light of a generous $10 million donation by Wendy and Keith Wellin '50 last year.

"Many people, especially the arts faculty, spent a significant amount of time discussing and determining the College's needs and programming for the theater, studio arts and museum/gallery," explained Stewart. "The architects listened carefully and then provided us with preliminary plans and cost estimates. Unfortunately, the costs were more than we had anticipated and can be

*See **Art Center**, page 3*

Campus Community Garden Ploughed and Ready to Grow

by Mallory Reed '10
News Editor

Excitement is germinating at Hamilton College. This fall, students, professors, and Bon Appetit have teamed up to establish a Community Garden at Hamilton. Due to the strong enthusiasm and initiative taken by many members of the Hamilton Community, the garden, which is located behind Ferguson lot on the East side of campus, has already been ploughed and seeded.

The idea of a community garden at Hamilton is something that many individuals and groups have discussed in recent years. German and Russian Professor Frank Sciacca said that with recent emphasis on sustainability, organic farming, eating locally, and the Slow Food movement, "everyone's talking about food these days."

Government Professor and garden faculty advisor Peter Cannavo says that a garden at Hamilton "ties into the attempt to back local food production." He explained that "the intensive centralized agriculture system we have now uses a lot of energy and chemicals in which the quality and safety of food is compromised."

The idea of a community garden is also an attempt to connect the Hamilton Community to Hamilton as a physical place, not just an institution. Cannavo said that "food is one of the most tangible connections to where we live and this is a connection that has been lost over the past century." A garden on campus will not only give students a way to get a sense of where their food comes from and to learn about gardening, but it will also give them a sense of place. Cannavo added, "Decentralization of food production has made us passive consumers, and a garden is also a way of establishing citizenship in a democracy."

Emma Stewart '09 echoed Cannavo when she said that the main goal of the garden is to "connect Hamilton students with the land they live on and educate them about where food comes from." Within the first weeks of the semester, Stewart, along with a small group of students including Corinne Bancroft '10, Andrew Pape '10, Marcy Carpenter '08, Jenny Stringer '08, Chris Sullivan '09, and Theo Collins '08 met regularly to draw up a proposal for a garden that they and fellow Hamilton students would develop and maintain. According to Collins, "a vision of an entirely student-run garden was something a few students threw around at the end of last year." He added, "We discussed food ethics and sustainability at length over the summer."

Simultaneously, a core of professors including Sciacca, David Gapp, Naomi Guttman, and Peter Cannavo were drafting plans for an 1812 Heritage Garden. The plans called for a garden researched and developed by "Food for Thought," a College Seminar taught by Sciacca and Gapp in Spring 2008, in conjunction with the upcoming bicentennial of Hamilton College in 2012. According to Sciacca, the goal of "The 1812 Heritage Garden" or "BiCentennial Garden" is a reconstruction of a "kitchen garden" typical of the early nineteenth century in upstate New York.

At the same time, Bon Appetit was mulling over ideas for

*See **Garden**, page 3*

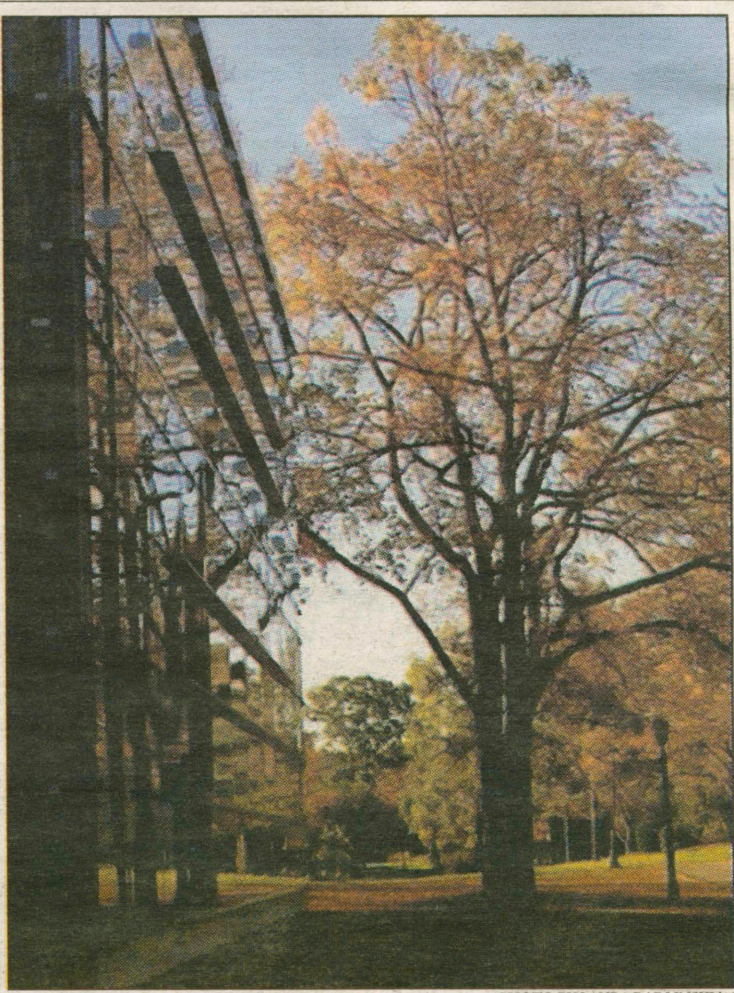


PHOTO BY LAURA RADLINSKI '10

The Charlean and Wayland Blood Fitness Center, which was formerly Saunders Hall of Chemistry, won the New York Construction's Best of New York 2007 "Best Sports Facility" award and also the "Award of Merit" in the restoration category. The center, where an estimated 75 percent of the student body works out regularly, has now been awarded a total of four merit awards by three seperate organizations.

Hamilton Conquers 46 Peaks in The Adirondacks

by Mallory Reed '10
News Editor

Last weekend, Hamilton Students beat some typical upstate New York weather to conquer the Adirondacks with the Hamilton Outing Club. Groups of two to ten students embarked on student-led day and overnight trips in an attempt to represent Hamilton at the top of as many of the 46 High Peaks as possible. Although heavy rains kept many groups from reaching the summits of their chosen mountains, HOC officers agreed that the weekend was a success.

According to officer Matt Gordon '09, the goal of the 46 Peak Weekend was to "get as many people out there enjoying the wilderness as we can." Gordon, along with fellow HOC officers Sarah Mortati '08, Kim Roe '08, Andrew Pape '10, Linnaea Chapman '10, and Lauren Duncan '10 organized the trip. Assistant Director of Outdoor Leadership Sarah Weis said, "The leaders did a fantastic job of organizing all the trips and doing the logistics to make it a successful weekend."

The 46 Peak Weekend also served as a "graduation trip" for new HOC trip leaders. Students interested in leading trips with the Outing Club participate in extensive training throughout the beginning of the semester, which culminates in a student-led trip where they can put their training to work. The past weekend, HOC successfully "graduated" 25 new trip leaders who can now lead Hamilton student groups on outing trips.

Gordon said that this year was "definitely a good year" for the 46 Peak Weekend as interest was huge, and 74 students, faculty, and administration ventured into the woods. People signed up for trips to all 46 Peaks, but due to busy schedules, HOC leaders said that Hamilton reached 28 of the 46 Adirondack High Peaks. For the last two years Hamilton attempted a 46 Peak Month where students attempted to climb as many mountains as possible in the span of a month. However, because of lower levels of student participation and fewer mountains climbed, HOC leaders were excited to bring back the 46 Peak Weekend tradition.

Friday and Saturday brought widespread rain to the Adirondack region, which kept many groups from completing their trip plans but failed to dampen spirits. Theo Collins '08 said that on his trip to Mount Marcy and Skylight Mountain, there was one point where hikers can usually step across a tiny stream, which is actually the mouth of the Hudson River. However, according to Collins, heavy rains turned the place into a "raging river," and his group had to turn back. Due to the rain, Collins's group did not make it to Gray and Haystack Mountains as per their original plan.

Amelia Colon '08 told a similar story in which a forecast for a "drizzle" on Friday evening turned into a downpour. On a trip to Dix, East Dix, Hugh, and Maycomb, Conlon's group hiked into their campsite on Friday night to find a fully occupied lean-to shelter. Because none of the group's gear was dry the next morning, they decided just to hike Dix Mountain. Although Conlon said that she combated "levels of dampness" of her clothing and gear and had to cross "an ankle deep stream that turned into a full-fledged river," she "really had fun despite the rain."

Conlon echoed many trip participants when she said that it was a real joy "finally [to] get to go camping." On Saturday night, after many students emerged from the woods soggy, tired, and happy, three or four groups met up at the Noonmark Diner near Keene Valley, NY for a hot meal. Conlon and Gordon agreed that the satisfying and delicious pie at the end of the trip made it all worthwhile.

Sunday turned out to be a beautiful day in which Gordon said that he hiked shirtless on his trip to Marshall Mountain. Day trips enjoyed warm temperatures and beautiful views as they reached numerous mountain summits. Overall the officers were impressed with the interest and turnout for the 46 Peak Weekend and said that it was great for HOC to sign out so much gear for something other than first-year pre-orientation Adirondack Adventure trips. According to Pape, students "saw some great views, had a lot of fun, and learned a lot on leader graduation trips." He added, "It was great to be able to play in the woods."

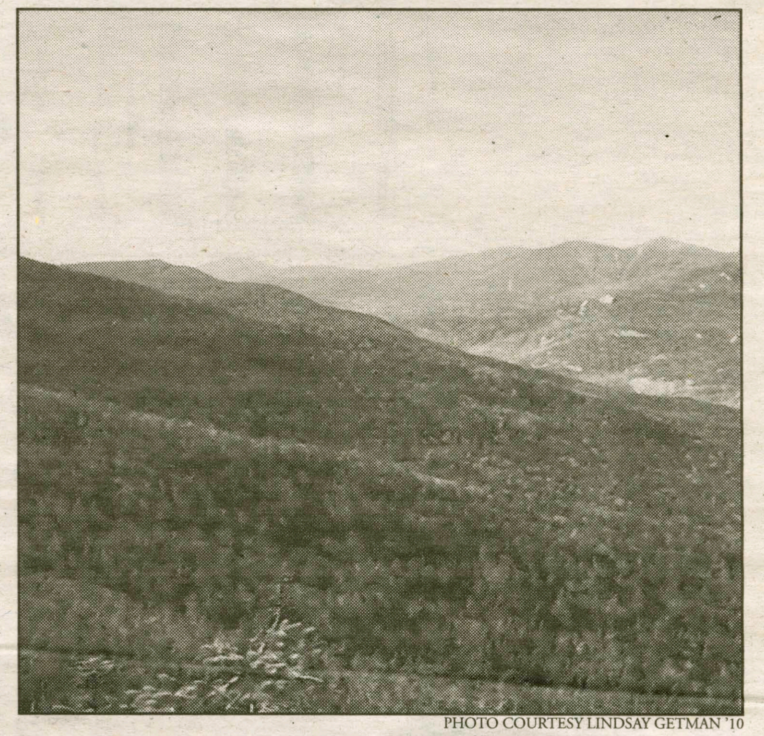


PHOTO COURTESY LINDSAY GETMAN '10

The view of Lower Great Range as seen from Nipple Top in the Adirondacks. Students reached almost 30 high peaks.

Strategic Planning Underway

by Kara Labs '09
News Writer

Every five years colleges across the nation begin what is called a Strategic Planning Process. During the 2007-2008 academic school year, Hamilton will embark on this journey as part of the Middle States re-accreditation process. Right now, Hamilton is about halfway through the process for re-accreditation in 2010-2011.

There are two ways to go about the Strategic Planning Process. One way is for the Dean of Faculty to write the plan and get it approved. "But," says Dean Urgo, Hamilton Dean of Faculty, "that is not in keeping with Hamilton practices." The second way is to have an open set of discussions about Hamilton budgets, resources, goals, and accomplishments. The faculty approved the process and structure on September 25.

Hamilton is now in the process of electing two faculty members to serve on the Executive Committee. The Academic Council accepted faculty nominations for the two electronically elected members to this committee, and the results will be out shortly. The Executive Committee is made up of eight people: President Joan Hinde Stewart, Dean Urgo, Co-chairs of the Trustee Planning Committee Susan Skerritt and Stephen Sadove, the Vice President of Administration and Finance Karen Leach, Student Assembly Representative Stuart Lombardi '09, and two faculty members.

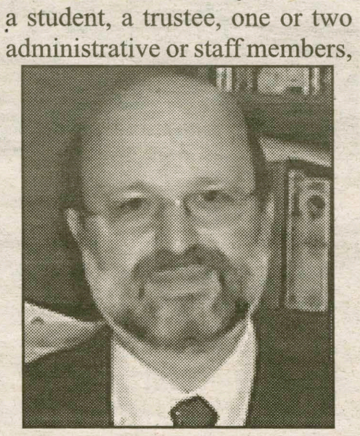
The purpose of the Executive Committee is to allocate funding, approve and implement priorities, and set the mission and goals throughout the process. After the faculty members are elected, the next step is to form subcommittees and elect chairs. There will be eight subcommittees each with a different focus: academic program, residential life and co-curricular programs, athletics, student recruitment and retention, faculty and staff recruitment and development, ethics and academic freedom, shared governance and administration, and lastly, resources, facilities, and the environment.

Each subcommittee will be comprised of approximately six or seven members: a tenured faculty member who will act as the committee chair, another tenured or tenure-track faculty member, a student, a trustee, one or two administrative or staff members, and one other additional member. Stuart Lombardi '09 has spoken with Dean Urgo about student representation on each of the subcommittees and the election process will ensue shortly.

The eight subcommittee chairs will comprise the Steering Committee and will meet monthly. The Steering Committee's charge is to generally oversee the process and it will hold public meetings to keep the community informed about the entire process. The Steering Committee will solicit suggestions, advice, and concerns from the public.

Dean Urgo is very optimistic about the process. He stated that everything seems to be on schedule and should continue to go smoothly. He said that we "should not expect any major changes, but a refinement of what we have." The committees will be looking at issues like how to increase diversity at Hamilton. Urgo said that the reason this process was instituted was to, "set priorities within the next five years" as well as to budget resources, increase participation, and act as a benchmark to help guide Hamilton's moves in the years to come.

There was an open meeting for faculty members on Monday, October 22 to generate ideas and goals for the process as a whole. This was an important opportunity for faculty members to issue concerns and engender ideas that the subcommittees will discuss.



Dean of Faculty Joseph Urgo

The SA Update

A biweekly report on the Hamilton College Student Assembly

SA News:

-The SA finished passing its series of amendments. The amendments affect election procedures. Students will have the opportunity to vote on the amendments shortly.

-The SA passed a resolution urging the College to renovate ELS to turn it into a student union.

-Every five years, the faculty conducts a Strategic Planning Process, which is a goal and agenda setting process for the College. The new Strategic Planning Process will begin this year. The faculty voted to include one student representative on each Strategic Planning subcommittee. If you are interested in serving on any of the eight Strategic Planning subcommittees, e-mail sa@hamilton.edu or slombard@hamilton.edu by Monday, October 29.

The President's Report:

For the better part of a decade, students, administrators, and trustees have entertained the possibility of transforming ELS into a student union. We strongly believe the College would benefit from a centrally located student union that includes meeting rooms, a social space, the bookstore, WHCL, and other important student spaces. We further believe ELS is the most advantageous location for such a student union, as it is in the center of campus and is adjacent to Beinecke Village. Accordingly, we believe the College should renovate ELS and turn it into a student union.

On a separate note, over the past few weeks a number of events have occurred that we know the vast majority of students do not approve of. A hateful statement containing a terrible racial slur was written on one student's car. Another student had his laptop stolen in the library. We know our community does not condone racism or theft. Let us not be passive – let's make our condemnation of racism and theft known. We're not trying to preach here, but c'mon guys, if you hear or see something you're not okay with, speak up.

-Stuart Lombardi and Ryan Messier
President and Vice President of the Student Assembly

Land and $20,000 in Garden Funding Approved

*From **Garden**, page 1*

a garden on the Hamilton campus. According to Executive Chef Reuben Haag, Bon Appetit has a garden at a college campus in Maine maintained by a local farmer. A garden on campus would bring Bon Appetit's "Eat Local" philosophy to an extremely local level. Haag said that he "loves every angle of local," as eating locally guarantees "better products, fresher produce, and it uses less carbon and energy."

With strong alumni support from Graduates for a Greener Hamilton, students drafted a proposal for a student-run garden. Teaming up with the Food for Thought Seminar seemed like a perfect move as students envisioned the garden as a place where classes could come and participate. Collins said that including the Heritage Garden as a part of the community garden is "a prime example of how the garden can give back to the community in an academic sense." The students combined their proposal with Professor Sciacca and Professor Gapp and brought it to President Stewart's Open Hour.

Students said that the President was immediately enthusiastic about the idea for a community garden. She advised the students and professors to contact Executive Assistant to the President and

PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING '09

The Community Garden will be used by students and professors devoted to the 1812 Heritage Garden, and produce will be sold to Bon Appetit.

Secretary to the Board of Trustees Meredith Harper Bonham and Vice President of Administration and Finance Karen Leach. The students and professors detailed their plans and requested financial support for the garden in a meeting with President Stewart, Dean Urgo, Bonham, and Leach. In about a week, the administration notified the project developers that they would be receiving the $20,000 and plot of land they had requested for the garden.

The money is for startup costs of the garden, as $13,000 is going toward a water line, around $1,800 is to pay Ed Crane (a local farmer who lives up the hill for advice and ploughing), and the rest toward a fence. While money is needed initially to establish and maintain the garden, the goal is for the garden to be self-sustaining and eventually to turn a profit. In at least five years, students hope to make money that can go back into the garden by selling produce to Bon Appetit and a local farmers market.

Haag said that Bon Appetit will play a big role in creating a sustainable garden and that the food service is willing to buy "everything and anything the garden produces." On behalf of Bon Appetit, Haag has jumped into plans for the garden with financial assistance and help in picking out products that will do well in the upstate New York climate. Along with seeds that Bon Appetit has already purchased for the students, the company has agreed to buy an extra $200 worth of seeds. Haag hopes for large quantities of fresh herbs, chives, numerous varieties of squash, beans, and root vegetables to use in the dining halls. He also hopes to use flowers grown in the garden for Bon Appetit catering events on campus. Haag looks forward to next fall, which he said will be the most exciting time for the garden when there will be "real food in good quantity." He revealed tremendous excitement and said, "I'm looking forward to going down and playing in the dirt."

The garden founders are looking for volunteers to get dirty in the garden as well. The garden is about three-quarters of an acre; about one-quarter will be devoted to the 1812 Heritage Garden, and the rest will be divided into row crops, individual student plots, and common spaces. Students who drafted plans for the garden emphasized that the garden is open to all members of the Hamilton Community. Student volunteers will be needed for initial set up, in the spring and fall for planting, and throughout the year for general maintenance. Plots will be available for individual students during the summers at Hamilton. Emma Stewart said, "We want everyone to come together and grow."

Theo Collins said that the garden "will reflect the connection to sustainability and food in the 'greening' of Hamilton supported by the administration." As a part of the Community Garden, the 1812 Heritage Garden is a historical project that will connect the community experience to the curriculum of student research and will celebrate 200 years of Hamilton. The garden will also beautify the campus and Cannavo hopes that the location near the new Admissions building will encourage all campus tours to stop by.

Many are impressed by the students' entrepreneurial work and how quickly the project came together. Stewart and Collins estimated that the process, beginning with initial discussion this semester and ending with ploughing, took about a month. Cannavo said that he was "incredibly impressed by how much the students took initiative and got funding." Sciacca agreed and said that "the energy of the students is remarkable and without it, starting this project would have been difficult."

The next step will be planting garlic in the garden this fall. Volunteers will be needed in the spring for garden preparation such as making raised flowerbeds. Planting will be after Memorial Day, most likely by student interns paid through grants. Collins said, "It's been really exciting to work on the garden. We followed through and saw a positive response and backing from the administration." He added, "We hope the community gets behind the garden."

Action Forum Expands

by Matt Gordon '09
News Writer

United people are strong and can make a difference; divided we are weak and our struggles are futile. This is the premise of the Action Forum, a forum started last year by several inspired students disillusioned by poor attendance at activist events and meetings.

Mark Rudd, an instrumental member of SDS In the '60s, came to Hamilton for a speech last spring. After this event, many students realized the importance of creating a movement at Hamilton instead of just another concerned group. There are already many activist groups on campus, but few of them get greater than a handful of regulars at weekly meetings, and the campus community pays them little attention. Furthermore, many of the groups were concerned about similar issues, or the issues were connected. For example, environmental racism affects both environmental groups and social justice groups. Many believe it is possible that global warming has exacerbated the crisis in Darfur by causing droughts and limiting water supplies.

By creating a forum for different groups to meet and discuss plans, the Action Forum has increased the potential for collaboration between groups. This formula has helped to put on events such as the Stop the Death Penalty Day in McEwen, protests in Syracuse and this coming weekend in New York City, protests of Lockheed Martin's Ethics workshop, and also a series of events protesting the Jena 6 human rights case. Involved groups have included the Hamilton Environmental Action Group, the Social Justice Initiative, Students Against Violence, Democracy Matters, Rainbow Alliance, STAND, Amnesty International, Hamilton Students for A Democratic Society, and individual activists. Each group sends representatives to the bimonthly meeting to tell the other groups about activities coming up. Then members of the Action Forum discuss ways in which the activities can be enhanced by support from other groups, or ways in which the groups can all take action together.

Through the Action Forum, student activists have gotten to know each other better on campus, creating a stronger unified feeling and a support network. The Action Forum has more events planned in the upcoming weeks, including the Peace Rally in New York on Saturday, and Powershift (a climate change rally in Washington DC November 2-5). Individuals or groups interested in attending meetings can attend the next forum. The forum will be held in the Red Pit on Monday, November 5 at 9 p.m. For additional information about taking action with the Action Forum email mgordon@hamilton.edu.

Art Facility Plans Revised

*From **Art Center**, page 1*

attributed to rapidly escalating building costs, the complex and technical nature of the building designs, and more expansive program requirements."

Although this change in plans is a disappointment to students and faculty alike, Associate Professor of Art Ella Gant explained that, "The arts facilities plan is alive and healthy, just in revision, which is a natural part of the process for any project of this type. We are not starting over, and the work that everyone has done so far has not been lost or discounted."

In response to the budgetary constraints, the two committees responsible for the arts facilities planning, one consisting of trustees, alumni and administrators and the other of arts department chairs, administrators and the Emerson Gallery coordinator, have already shifted their focus to more fiscally manageable alternatives.

Professor of Music Sam Pellman, faculty coordinator of arts facilities planning on the Hill, elaborated on some of the alternatives currently under exploration. "There are a couple of things we're considering," said Pellman. "One option is to renovate the existing space in List and add new space to it, but the existing space really resists adaptation for modern studio art use due to insufficient space, ventilation, and lighting."

"Another option is building a new studio art facility on the Molly Root property," said Pellman. "In any event we are convinced that we need to build a new theater from the ground up."

Pellman also noted that Minor Theater is under consideration for new museum space, and its ideal location down the road from the new admission building would contribute to providing a more welcoming atmosphere for visitors and prospective students.

Both Stewart and Pellman were quick to address concerns that the college is too narrowly focused on the renovation and construction of building facilities. "It's a fundamental step," said Pellman. "What you find is that facilities dictate the kinds of things you can do and, in fact, one of the guiding principles is to make these facilities very flexible so that over the next 30, 40 or 50 years the people who will be teaching and studying [on the Hill] will be able to pursue diverse programming and projects."

Stewart said, "The College's facilities are inseparable from our academic programming. We will continue to focus on the needs of our academic departments to provide our students with a superior educational experience. An excellent example is the Science Center, which allows our faculty and students to work collaboratively in state of the art facilities."

All things considered, those involved in the planning process are very optimistic. "Within the next few weeks we'll be having discussions with architects and begin developing some of these alternative options and by the end of the semester we should have a pretty good idea of where we're going," said Pellman. "This will happen, and when it does it will be a wonderful thing for the college."

Stewart echoed these sentiments. "The arts are integral to the liberal arts at Hamilton. In addition to the many students who major in those areas, hundreds more participate in and take advantage of our programs. We will continue to modify and refine arts facilities planning for the benefit of our faculty, students and larger community."

Common Ground: Interview with Cal Thomas

by Eric Kuhn '09
Insights & Ideas Writer

Conservative Cal Thomas and liberal Bob Beckel have come together to write "Common Ground: How to Stop the Partisan War that is Destroying America," which will be released October 9. Thomas writes a twice-weekly syndicated column that appears in over 600 newspapers across the country, and is a frequent panelist on the "Fox News Watch." Huffington Post was given a sneak preview of the book, and I spoke with Thomas about "Common Ground" and his conservative views.

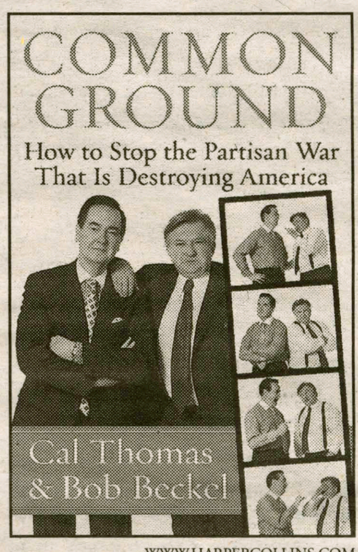
Your new book is "Common Ground." What inspired you to write this book?

Well Bob [Beckel] and I had a long personal relationship, being on different sides of the political aisle. We would debate a lot on television and wound up being good friends. I think you could ask my liberal friends if I've ever disliked them because of their political beliefs and I think most of them would say no. I count among people I admire and who I regard as friends: Frank Rich of the New York Times, Ted Kennedy, these types of folks. I think that our political atmosphere has been poisoned by the demonizing of people [with] who[m] you may have a policy difference. Bob felt the same way and had gone through a crisis in his life (gives me a little credit, I guess, for helping him out) and then we began to talk. We said "You know we don't know a lot of people in Washington who have the relationship we do. Let's see if we can agree on some things and move the ball forward to something that promotes the welfare of most people." Out of that came a column in USA Today, which they immediately lapped up. We have been doing that for two and a half years and the editorial people say they get an enormous response, over 95 percent of it positive. And we get that response on the lecture circuit, when we go out and perform this live. It brings down the house every time with huge applause, often standing ovation, from people who are sick of the partisan bickering, the one-upsmanship, the demonizing of, if you are a Democrat of the Republicans or reverse, who want to actually see government that works and works for the most amount of people.

Can you walk us through the history of how we evolved into such a polarized nation?

There are a number of factors. Certainly cable TV in the 24/7 news cycle, which constantly needs controversy and disagreement. We tell a story in the book where both of us have been called by bookers for certain shows, asked our opinions on things and gotten passed over because we weren't vitriolic enough. They want somebody where one person calls another, "a communist running America," and the other will respond, "you are a fascist running America" and then they go to commercial break. So that is part of it.

The fundraisers are another big part of it, all of this working together on both sides: "Send me $25, $50, $100, or so-and-so is going to ruin America." Then the other side says, "send me the same about because those guys are going to ruin America." The fundraisers have figured out these hot button issues. On the right it is abortion, gay rights, gun control and secular humanism. On the left it is religious right cultists who want to bring cameras into your bedroom and police your private behavior, prayer in school and a number of other things. They each got their little universe of names on mailing lists that they send these things to. You have seen them, underlined, some of them in bold type and with red letters on the envelope. They get everybody excited but almost nothing gets done because most of the money is going into the pocket of the fundraisers and to improve the lifestyle, and presumed political power, of the people getting the money.



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According to Cal Thomas, political divisiveness is "un-American."

Where do you go for "Fair and Balanced" and not polarized news?

I read the same things that most journalists read everyday: New York Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, USA Today, the Washington Times and my little local paper, the Washington Examiner. These are all on my reading lists and then I will go on the Internet and look at some of the more respectable blogs throughout the day, left and right, and foreign papers to try and get a sense of what people are feeling and saying from different perspectives. I read fewer conservatives than I do liberals for a number of reasons. Number one, I don't think that just because someone disagrees with me they are always wrong. And I frequently learn things, things I have not thought about, things I should have thought about and at a minimum how better to defend my own position when I see what the other side is arguing. But I think we have gotten to a point in this country, and it is very, very sad to me as a native Washingtonian and American, where if I disagree with somebody, it makes them less patriotic or less

*see **Cal Thomas**, page 6*

Thumbs up

- Albus Dumbledore is gay *and* a wizard. How's that for your family values, George Bush?

- President Stewart goes undercover as a mom to sporting events. You stay classy in those jeans Joan.

- Women's soccer team undefeated and Caitlin "Stonewall" McGilley breaks school career shutout record. For their next miracle, the team will make Communications a real major.

- Farm Party: Finally an excuse to dress like we're from around here.

- Getting in shape so I can fill out my Big Slammu "Street Sharks" costume. Jawsome!

- The winner of Trivia Night can go home with $30 for Tex Mex. The winner of life can bring home Paul Ryan... for sex.

Thumbs down

- HamPoll Question: Is Hamilton diverse enough? Too diverse? One answer is correct, the other is racist. Guess which is which!

- Uppity squirrels: Squirrels are supposed to sh themselves at the very smell of humans, not run around fearlessly eating our food that we throw on the ground. If someone doesn't put them in their place soon they'll start walking upright and taking all the good housing lottery numbers.**

- Having to listen to all of your crappy ideas. Face it: No amount of goods and/or services can make up for the fact that most of you just aren't funny.

- Bad tasting water blamed on "turbidity." Nice try, but I think I know when I'm being hazed by Physical Plant.

- The Patriots and the Red Sox: As if Bostonians needed another excuse to be Massholes.

Who Cares?

- Did you notice that those wicker basket art pieces outside the Diner mysteriously disappeared and then reappeared two days later? No, of course you didn't, because NOBODY CARES.

- United Nations Observance Day: Celebrating the 62nd anniversary of the UN with entertainment provided by Capoeira! What better way to honor the UN than a display of fake fighting?

- Al Gore wins the Nobel Peace Prize for making millions on his Power Point presentation. Suck on that Irena Sendler, the 90-year-old woman responsible for saving 2,500 children during the Holocaust!

- Korean film festivals: I just can't pretend to care about any more ethnic events. Then again, when have we ever cared about any event that didn't involve beer?

by Stephen Allinger '09 & Sarah Cornblath '08

THE SPECTATOR

Over the last five years Hamilton has seen a boom in building construction and renovation that has given birth to a new science center and fitness center, as well as broken ground on a massive renovation and extension of the Kirner-Johnson building. Not least among these ambitious projects are the ongoing and developing plans for new arts facilities.

Although the latter of these projects has faced what many would consider substantial setbacks in recent months due to budgetary constraints, perhaps because it has taken up the rear on the renovation and construction timeline and been left, as a consequence, with fewer resources and funding, it is important to approach the situation with a broad perspective.

Many may be quick to misinterpret the seeming dearth of fiscal resources in one of two ways. Some feel that the school has exercised too narrow a focus in the expenditure of resources by diverting so much funding to construction projects, and as a result has fallen short of its goals. Others would say that the plans for the new arts facilities have received less attention and been given less priority by the college, and consequently are now subject to major scale backs.

With regard to the first view, it is important to remember that programming initiatives are entirely contingent on facilities that can accommodate the students, faculty, and resources from which they originate. There is a lot of substance to this statement, and it is one that both President Stewart and those involved in the planning of the various construction projects are quick to iterate. As for the second view, it is unfortunate that the arts complex has been left to take up the rear of a string of fiscally demanding projects, and there is certainly truth to the outlook that Hamilton has exhausted some of its resources (mainly the generous wallets of alumni who have already donated to the many projects that have been recently completed or are currently underway, excepting, of course, the Wellin's record breaking $10 million gift). This should not, however, be considered a slight to the arts at Hamilton, and it has certainly not been taken as such by faculty and students involved in the arts, or at least not by the vocal ones.

The heart of the issue resides in the fact that adequate facilities are a necessary foundation from which programming and education grow. It is certainly difficult sometimes, especially for students who will never personally experience the benefits of many projects, but who must endure the unsavory consequences of living and learning in close proximity to construction, to buy into the "bigger picture." Yet the fact remains that the "bigger picture" is very real and very important. As students, we place our trust in the College when we decide to spend our formative years on the Hill, and we must remember that the College does not take this trust lightly. Hamilton will stand strong (with its many new buildings) for years to come after we have vacated the hallow halls of the Hill, but the students will never leave, they will only change. So next time you cough as you stroll through the exhaust of the many construction vehicles that have taken residence on the dark side, or find fault with the administration for failing to fulfill the plans for new arts facilities that were conceived with your successors in mind, remember the trust you have placed in this institution and its keepers (wherever they may be), and look forward to a future day when a visit to your old home will carry you once more down Martin's Way, and just maybe a surge of pride will rear its head inside you as you remember what you endured so that others might share in an experience that helped mold you, albeit in newer and nicer buildings.

-Marty Connor '09

THE SPECTATOR

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Cal Thomas: No Polarization

*from **Common**, page 4*

worthy than I am. I just think that is almost an evil thought. You don't get anywhere. We have enemies on the outside trying to kill us, who have already done so on September 11th and are trying to do so some more. To be fighting on this level with each other weakens us. It is not that these things are not important. I can go out and debate and have a spirited discussion with someone on the other political side, but then go out to dinner with them. They are not my enemies; they are my fellow Americans, as corny as it sounds.

The first thing that you write in the book is about why you are a conservative. In a few sentences, why are you a conservative?

I think the essence of conservatism is that we know certain things that have always worked that have been tested over generations that have proved correct: economic things, personal relationships, cultural things and I want to *conserve* those and pass them on to another generation. That does not mean I am insensitive to poor people, the disadvantaged, the handicap or any other things that liberals have claimed a certain exclusivity to. I think liberals were way ahead of conservatives on civil rights, for example. I think civil rights were a conservative issue, and we dropped the ball on that, but hopefully we have been catching up in recent years. At least some of us. So again, I think conservatism is about low taxes, smaller government, personal responsibility and accountability, and government as a last resort, not a first resort.

How was it writing the book with the liberal Bob Beckel?

Well, it was not difficult writing with the *liberal* Bob Beckel, but this was his first book so he hadn't done one like it before, so he tended to go on a little bit and had to be (as I did too) edited by our editor quite a bit. We turned in something that was 300–400 more pages longer than what we wound up with. So that was a little more difficult than other books I had written with other people, but we talked it out. This is one of the keys. We don't have relationships with people on the "other side" any more. We don't talk things out. Oh you're a liberal, you're religious, you're a conservative, you're whatever, therefore I know everything I need to know about you. I have put you in a box, I've slapped a label on you and therefore I don't really need to talk with you any more. But Bob and I talk all the time. If we were married, it would be what a good marriage is supposed to be: communication!

Out of everyone running in 2008, on the conservative side, who is the best person to find common ground?

You know, that is a really good question. Hillary Clinton is certainly talking about it now and Barack Obama –

Cal, Cal! I said "conservative!"

No, I know, I am just pointing out we are getting a lot of the language, and that is a good thing. I think certainly Mitt Romney is a possibility. He had to deal with democrats in a primarily democratic state, he being a republican in Massachusetts. He has some experience in that. Rudy Guliani, of course, being a republican mayor in heavily democratic New York City. He has often said he has a lot of experience in dealing with democrats.

Why do you think "common ground" has become taboo in American politics?

I think because people see compromise as a dirty word and they don't see it in the classic sense that we try to resurrect in the book. They see it as selling out. They see for example, if you wanted to pick an extreme, someone who is a civil rights advocate agreeing in the 50's to a proposal where African Americans could eat at lunch counters and not use restrooms. This would be selling out a principle. Or on the right, it would be splitting the difference between abortion: outlawing it in the last three months, but not in the first six months. So people would see that as a sell out of principle. But that is not what we are calling for. We are calling for – look, if you only have the votes to do certain things and if both sides can agree, whether it is poverty or abortion or whatever, on a particular thing that moves the ball forward, at least some, to the mutual agreement of both sides, then it is better to get that than *nothing*. But in our current environment what we have is, "I want 100 percent and if I can't get it, I am not going to allow you to get anything because then you will get credit." We see that all the time. We saw it when Clinton was in the White House with the Republican congress and we see it now with Bush in the White House with the democratic congress. They cannot afford to allow the president to succeed at anything, because he might get credit to their detriment. I just think, frankly, that is un-American.

Check in next week for an interview with Bob Beckel.

Hamilton Hogwash

A body in the Science Center and a phallus in the Chapel

by Laura Mattison '09
Insights & Ideas Columnist

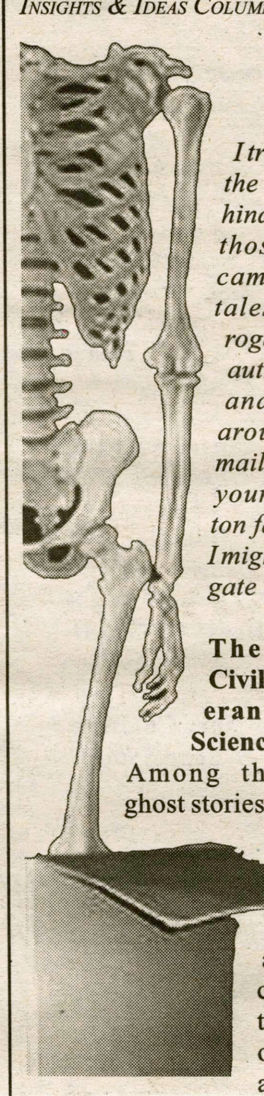


PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY MELISSA BALDING '09

I track down the truth behind a few of those crazy campus tall tales, interrogating the authorities and asking around. E-mail me with your Hamilton fables and I might investigate them!

The Myth: Civil War Veteran Haunts Science Center

Among the many ghost stories that have floated about campus these 214 odd years, an old one involves a Civil War veteran. Rumor was that his body had been dissected for science classes and he haunted the old Science Center.

The Investigation: I spoke with Professor Williams in Biology and the story he told me was rather chilling. He came to Hamilton about 25 years ago and heard these lingering tales of a Civil War vet used for dissection. In 1988, preparing for a renovation of the Science Center, Williams found himself looking through closets that had been ignored for decades. In one such long forgotten closet, he found a cardboard box with a pickled human body cut into large pieces. The body had been well preserved and carefully dissected, but missing one critical part: there was no head.

This was odd, to say the least. Although there was never any exact dating of the body, the method of preservation fit the post-Civil War era. I spoke with retired Professor Jim Ring, who told me it would also make sense that Hamilton would have had a body for dissection in those days, when Hamilton had a greater emphasis on hands-on pre-med training.

The Truth: Perhaps the body was that of a Civil War vet, but we'll probably never know for sure. Professor Williams turned it over to authorities, who used the body for training before it was eventually cremated. The head, however, has never been found.

Whose dead body did they find in the Science Center?

The Myth: Womyn's Center Protesting Public Phallus?

The rumor goes that at some point the Womyn's Center lodged a formal complaint against the Chapel. They argued that it should not be lit at night because it looked like a giant penis. Hilarious, right?

The Investigation: Honestly, it didn't take much. I spoke to Grace Dobbyn '08, a friend of mine in the Womyn's Center and she's heard the rumor so many times she almost shot me when I asked about it.

The Truth: It's not true. It's never been true. It never will be true. But it's still pretty funny.

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

I am writing in response to the October 19th article on the SJI Coffee Hour addressing acts of intolerance at Hamilton.

Let me first say that no one should have to go through the pain caused by racial slurs and bigotry. Let me further say that I agree with the members of SJI that the administration's response to the vandalism on a student's car was inadequate. In my opinion, the administration should have immediately sought the community's help in identifying the perpetrator of the vandalism instead of waiting two weeks to send out an email that only vaguely described the incident. However, the attitudes of people displayed in the article and the concrete steps proposed by the SJI and others worry me.

First, the outrage over the "small, run-down ALCC [Afro-Latin Cultural Center]" is misplaced. I think it's great that we have groups on campus dedicated to promoting various cultures and religious traditions. However, the question must be asked: Why do we even have a building specifically for minority groups? Why do we feel like we need to isolate these groups in their own building? From my vantage point, this prevents interaction amongst people and makes it more difficult for us to discuss important issues like tolerance openly. Furthermore, Stephanie Tafur '10 claims that "Inequality on campus is shown through facilities such as the ALCC." No one is required to conduct meetings in the ALCC. Spaces on campus are open to any group that reserves them. I do not understand how the relative size or quality of the ALCC demonstrates "inequality."

Second, Professor Shelley Halley says of discrimination at Hamilton: "It's an institutional problem. It's everybody." I hope that every student, professor, administrator, secretary, coach, and physical plant employee is listening, because Professor Halley has just accused you all of bigotry. She has, if her words may be taken literally, called everyone on campus a racist or sexist. This statement is nothing less than a smear against the entire Hamilton community, and community members should not let this statement go unchallenged if they disagree. People who believe otherwise should defend Hamilton from this attack.

Third, Dean of Students Nancy Thompson, in response to the outrage, agreed that such programs as a semester-long first-year seminar on "tolerance and sensitivity" may help to fight intolerance on campus. Think about what this means should the college implement this program. Every incoming freshman would have to spend significant time every week attending a class whose message would probably boil down to "respect everyone and play nice with others." With all due respect to people who support this idea, my parents, my church, and my kindergarten teacher have done an excellent job in teaching me these basic values. Neither I nor anyone else needs to have these ideas pounded into our heads once again at the beginning of college. This program would insult our intelligence and morality.

Finally, some students suggested that the college require "Diversity Intensive Classes" about other cultures that would operate like writing intensive courses. We have an open curriculum at Hamilton. Should the college institute this requirement, we would no longer have an open curriculum, for the diversity requirement would require students to take classes based on content, unlike the current writing intensive and quantitative requirements. However, I would be open to this requirement on the condition that the college also require a course in Western civilization and thought. To require the study of different cultures and not the study of the historical and philosophical underpinnings of Western culture would unfairly overlook the tradition that produced Hamilton College in the first place. Students would leave Hamilton without an adequate diversity of viewpoints and ideas.

In conclusion, I hope the entire Hamilton community can have a constructive discussion of these issues. I hope I have clearly laid out my personal concerns with the direction this debate is heading.

Sincerely,
Tim Minella '09

"I'd do *anything* for extra credit."

Sharfi Farhana '09

"I lost my number, can I have yours?"

Teresa Allinger '11

"Don't bother...I've already disconnected the phone line."

Bianca Dragan '10

Hamilton Unscripted

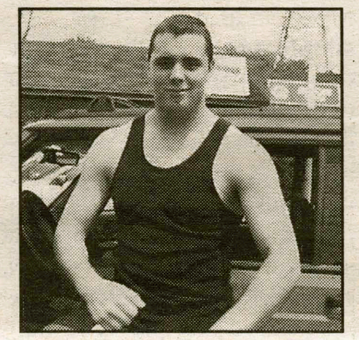
This week's question:

What's your favorite pick up line?

by Jacob Murray '09, Pat Hodgens '09, Kevin O'Connor '09 and Melissa Balding '09

"Can we discuss my paper, professor?"

Suzy Belmont '07



"I'm Joe Bock."

Joe Bock '09

"Do you have a map? Because I'm lost in your eyes."

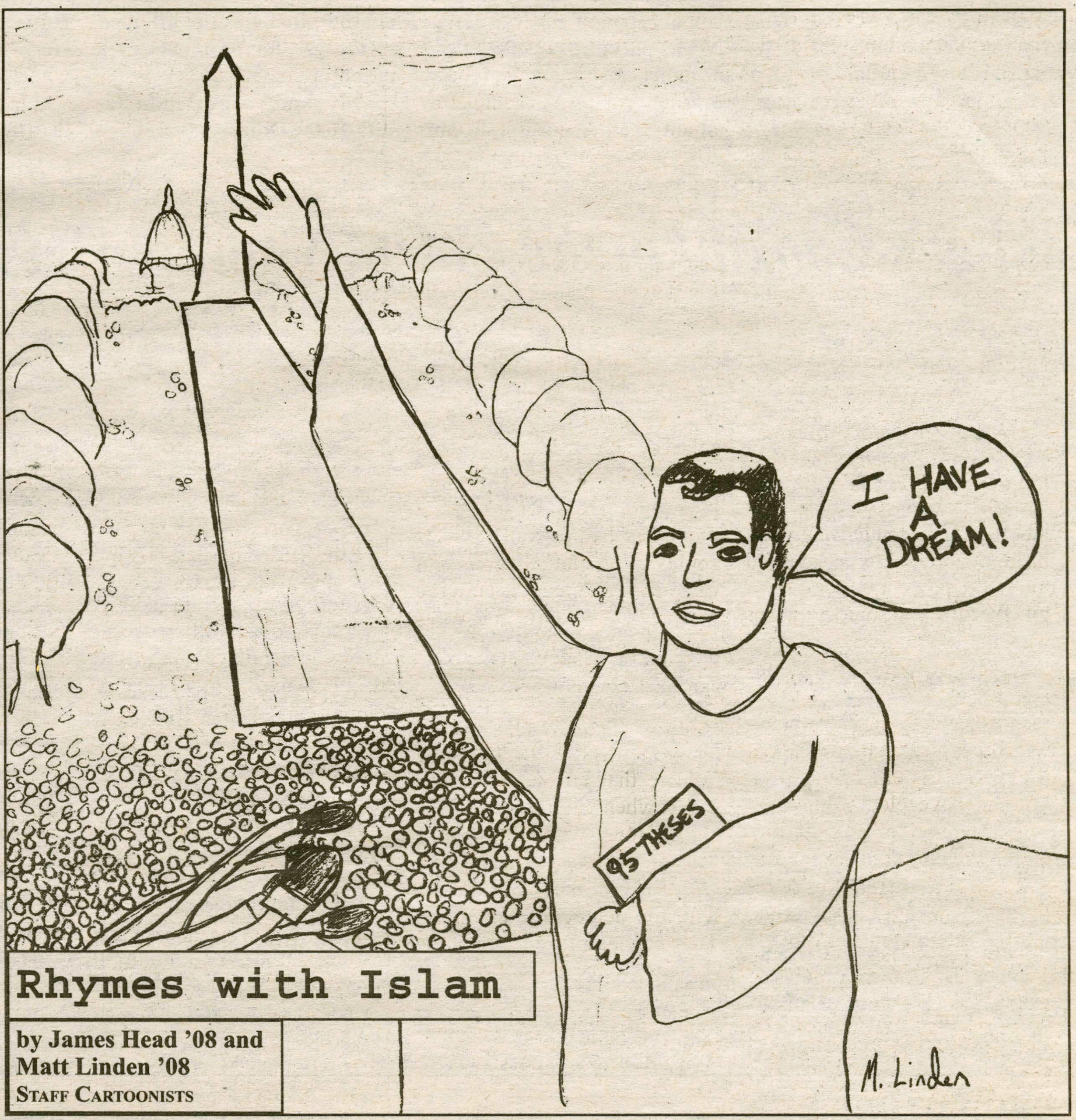
Marge

You've got opinions.

Get them heard.

Write for INSIGHTS & IDEAS

E-mail specii



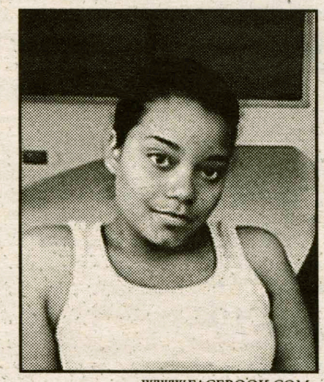
Rhymes with Islam

by James Head '08 and Matt Linden '08
STAFF CARTOONISTS

FEATURES

From Where I Sit: A Dominican Family

By Ysmerlyn Baez '11
Features Writer



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Ysmerlyn is a Hamilton student originally from the Dominican Republic

Sunny days and flower gardens adorned our lives. We came from a place where no one cared about race. My grandfather is blond with blue eyes, and my grandmother has dark skin with brown eyes. When asked about their roots, they had no answer; when asked about their childhood and family, they knew it all. We came from the countryside and had very similar lives to those of our ancestors. We pass down our culture, beliefs and values. Poor is not a word I would ever use to describe my family because we are rich in unique customs that create a beautiful culture.

My family was rich with offspring: my maternal and paternal great-grandparents both had more than fifteen children. (Birth control came about in the 1950s in the US.) My paternal grandmother had six children that she raised on her own. At that time, a woman, raising children on her own, was very unusual, but my grandmother managed. (I can still remember her at the age of sixty-six taking care of chickens and pigs, just like any man would.) My maternal grandparents had four boys and four girls; my mother was the oldest. My parents had two boys and two girls, which fit the Dominican belief that having an even number of children brought luck. As you can see, my family has rich family bonds that were a crucial part of the Dominican culture.

Family bonding was crucial in the way that my family survived. The fathers would grow crops with their sons and the daughters would stay at home cooking. The girls would learn everything there was to know about maintaining a house, and the guys would learn everything there was to know about providing for a family. Today, as a city girl, I might argue strongly against these roles because of my feminist beliefs, but deep inside, I find this picture of my family's way of teaching so beautiful. In my family, men and women have had different roles, but the way we bonded was not as ignorant as some might think, instead the way we bonded was a way to be productive and prosperous.

The tasks and customs were passed down from one generation to the next. Before my mother's birth (1966), when Trujillo ruled, 73 % of the population relied on agriculture as their occupation. Since my family was part of those statistics, the father teaching the sons how to grow crops was crucial for our survival. According to my mother's testimony, my grandparents would always say that they lived in a time where it was all about Trujillo (1930-1960). It was required for one of Trujillo's picture, to be in each home as way of showing allegiance and obedience to his rule. Since my family was not part of the elite class and did not have influential religious status, Trujillo's cruel rule did not affect them.

My grandparents were also not affected because they lived very far from the city in an isolated house, deep in the untamed land. Walking was my family's only means of transportation. The siblings had a lot of time to bond because they were very isolated. After completing their chores, they would play and practice some of the domestic skills they were taught during the day. My grandparents' lives were simple yet complicated; my grandmother gave birth to eight children at home. Difficult and dangerous situations would require the family as a whole to care and work for the well being of all. After overcoming a series of difficult situations, my family became even closer. The men would stay and build their homes near their parents' home so that their mothers could help their wives. They were not only constituents of a family but also constituents of a community. My family's living systems created customs, and perhaps, a culture that was not affected by the greater problems of a nation or society.

My family was rich in beliefs. In the Dominican Republic, my whole family would go to church on Sunday. We were also taught, however, to believe in witches and their power. I write "we" because when your grandfather talks about evil spirits and his experiences with them, it was and still is hard not to believe him. We would pray together each night and go to church on Tuesdays and Thursdays again. We are all Catholic, and we have great faith in our God. Christmas is the biggest holiday in our home. Everybody, my uncles and aunts and their families, would gather at my grandparents' home for this holiday. There the children would play amongst themselves and the grownups would have conversations. Whenever there was a problem, you would hear them asking for God's help. Whenever there was something they could not understand, they would just say that it was God's will.

Their faith and their superstitions were reasonable because of the isolation of their surroundings. The Dominican Republic is affected by many violent hurricanes, but the family home is in Santiago between two mountain ranges, Cordillera Central and Cordillera Sepentrional. When natural disasters occurred like Hurricane David (1979), my mother said that the worst thing that she saw was an old tree falling. I witnessed two hurricanes, Hurricane Hortense (1996) and Hurricane George (1998), and when I looked out through the windows, I saw nothing more than heavy rain. The mountains protected us. My family lived in a safer place than many rich people in my country did.

Although my family's economic income is relatively low in my country, we never felt that we were poor. My family was rich with offspring that would bond from a culture. They were safe from the modern problems of an advanced society. I come from a home where drugs and violence are not accepted, because we are very religious. The family elders do not tolerate such behavior, and since we have great respect for them, we live our lives accordingly. When I was little, I wore clothes that other people wore. My father had no other transportation than a motorcycle, and my house was constructed from palm trees. Although I did not have some of the expensive luxuries of life, I was given a great amount of discipline, care, love, protection and happiness. Today, I live in a house in New York City, and as my father did in the Dominican Republic, he currently works in construction. And even though we live far from our family in Santiago, we still live by the same customs in the states. Like my ancestors, I was taught that I was rich not poor, that I was fortunate not unfortunate, and that I had to be persistent if I wanted to achieve my dreams.

"From Where I Sit" is the ESOL column that presents the nonnative English speaker's point of view on his or her American college experience. If you have a "From Where I Sit" story that you would like to share, please email adragan.

What's Cookin' in the CoOp: Yummy Desserts for Your Tummy!

By Amelia Conlon '08
Features Contributor

In the CoOp we love to bake yummy things for the tummy. The smell of muffins, pies cakes, cookies and other confections can often be found wafting through the air on any given day.

Baklava (Courtesy of Pamela Eddy)

1 lb package of phyllo dough
1 lb unsalted butter
2 cups walnuts ground
1 cup of sugar
Rose water

Syrup—2 cups of sugar in 1 cup of water. Boil until sugar dissolves. Boil down a bit—set aside. Add a tablespoon of lemon juice.

Layer two sheets of phyllo dough—butter completely, layer two more sheets. Put half of the dough on bottom of pan in this manner. When half is done, put on mixture of nuts/sugar/rose water. Mix nuts and sugar together—add rose water to hold together. Put on rest of layers of dough—butter in between.

Cut in diamonds. Bake 350 for 45 minutes or until golden. Put syrup on when you take out of oven. Be careful not to over syrup.

Vegan Chocolate Cake (Moosewood Restaurant New Classics)

1 ½ cups unbleached white flour
1/3 cup unsweetened cocoa powder
½ teaspoon salt
1 cup sugar
½ cup vegetable oil
1 cup cold water or chilled brewed coffee
2 teaspoons pure vanilla extract
2 tablespoons cider vinegar

Preheat oven to 375°. Generously oil an 8-inch square or round pan and dust with cocoa powder.

In a medium bowl, sift together the flour, cocoa, baking soda, salt and sugar. In another bowl, combine the oil, water or coffee, and vanilla. Pour the liquid ingredients into the dry ingredients and mix until well blended and smooth.

Add the vinegar and stir briefly; the baking soda will begin to react with the vinegar right away, leaving pale swirls in the batter. Without wasting time, pour the batter into the prepared baking pan.

Bake for 20 to 30 minutes. Serve the cake right from the pan or, when it's cool, transfer to a plate.

This not too sweet cake was made for Peter Woodruff's birthday recently. The recipe can be doubled to make a 13 x 9 pan or an 8- inch layer cake. As a frosting carob chips were melted over a low heat with raspberry jam and then poured over the cake.

Crumb-top Apple Pie (Courtesy of Sam Bromley)

One nine inch pie crust

Filling:
¼ cup sugar
3 tablespoons flour
1 teaspoon cinnamon
pinch of salt
5 ½ cups apples (peeling optional)

Topping:
½ cup brown sugar
½ cup flour
½ cup oats
½ cup butter
pecans; caramel

1. Roll out crust and shape into pan.
2. Preheat oven to 375°
3. Chop apples and toss all filling ingredients together. Put filling in pan on crust.
4. Melt butter and mix all of the topping ingredients together; it should be crumbly and chunky. Spread the mix on top of apples.
5. Bake for 40-50 minutes until apples are soft and the filling somewhat bubbly.
6. Remove from oven and sprinkle with some pecans and caramel if desired.

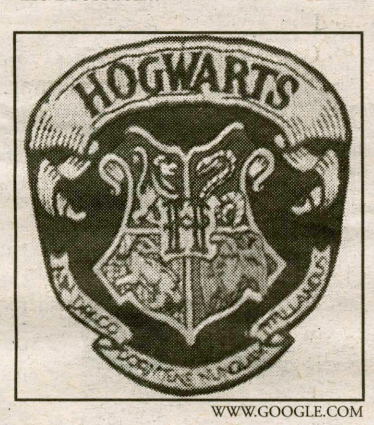
Sam made us this tasty treat after we went apple picking to get rid of the copious amounts of apples we brought back. It was served warm and with icecream on top.

Hogwarts @ Hamilton for Halloween

By Elizabeth Taliaferro '10
Features Writer

On October 26 and 27, Hamilton invites wizards of all ages to attend the fifth annual Hogwarts at Hamilton festivities. Fourty-five volunteers will transform ELS into J.K Rowling's Hogwarts and divide participants into the various houses: Gryffindor, Ravenclaw, Hufflepuff, and Slytherin. Once in a house, they are guided through the various rooms of Hogwarts (ELS), such as Potions, Divinations, Muggle Studies, the Dueling Club, as well as Gryffindor and Slytherin common rooms. Participants, who include Clinton residents, Hamilton students and professors, are immersed in wizardry and interact in improvisational scenes. The whole event is "as theatrical as possible," according to Fiona MacQuarrie '09, who will be playing Hermione. "We really stay in character and act as though the scenes are really happening at Hogwarts. It brings the characters to life in a way that the movies can't, and it's amazing to see that happen."

Hogwarts at Hamilton began when a small group of students involved in TrustTreat decided to create a Harry Potter themed house. Unfortunately, they were informed after decorating that their location was too far for the children from the rest of the TrustTreat activities, so the following year they decided to form a separate event, which became Hogwarts at Hamilton. The group has grown from eight students six years ago to forty-five volunteers this year. The event, which is free to the public, is funded by the Student Assembly and the Office of the President.



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Volunteers are very enthusiastic about the event. According to Sarah Peacock'08, "It brings the characters to life in a way that the movies can't, and it's amazing to see that happen." The event is a low-commitment theatrical event: "I love to act, but didn't have a lot of time to devote to theater at college, so it's a great way to be involved in a type of theater for a weekend," says MacQuarrie.

Volunteers return to the event year after year. "I was originally attracted to Hogwarts because it promised to be a chance to dress in a ridiculous outfit, and hang out with a bunch of people who shared similar interests with me," says Brandon Lemos'09, who will be playing Harry Potter. "The reason I stayed was all the amazing people I've met during my time in H@H. Everyone is totally dedicated to putting on the best show possible." Local parents have also said that they look forward to the event every year.

With the release of the seventh book, this year's H@H event will include characters from the older and newer books. "For the first time, we'll have a Dobby to hand out candy to the kids, which I'm sure will be a big hit," says Lemos.

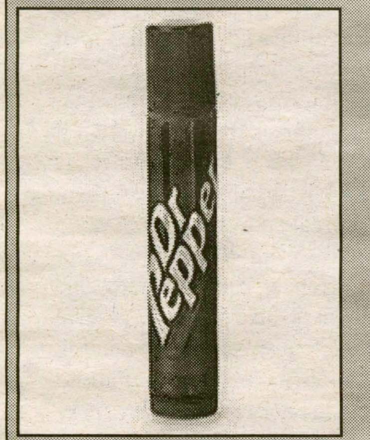
The tours will be on Friday every hour from 6 p.m.-11 p.m. and Saturday from 5 p.m.-11 p.m.. However, the 6 p.m. on Friday and the 5 p.m. and 6 p.m. on Saturday are closed due to pre-registrations. All proceeds from the weekend go to the children's room in the Kirkland town library. The event is well worth attending to see both the volunteers and the kids alike.

"Seeing the kids dressed as Harry asking to take a picture with Harry may be the cutest thing in the world," says Peacock.

Lotions and Potions

By Elizabeth Kosar '10
Beauty Columnist

For a beauty addict like me, there's not much better than a day when the newest copy of Allure or InStyle arrives, just



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brimming with juicy tidbits, articles, sometimes even free samples. Last year, I won $1000 worth of Aveda products from Lucky Magazine. And, no, that wasn't a typo. It was seriously $1000 worth of stuff. I handed out shampoo, lotion, and lip gloss to my new roommates, the girl across the hall (who's now one of my best friends, go figure), basically everyone. People thought it was insane. But that's what beauty is. Sometimes, it's ridiculous, but more often than not, it's really fun. That's the awesome thing about the magazines. They provide fun, fresh ideas or fun reminders of products we loved. Here are some fun ideas, guaranteed to make a day a little better:

Lip Smackers

We were all ten once and it's likely that we had at least one flavor of Lip Smackers. I always loved Dr. Pepper, but my best friend was addicted to Watermelon, because it tasted really good ,apparently. If you're nostalgic for an era before midterms and senior thesis, pick up a Lip Smacker. And they're generally about 99 cents so they also can remind of a time before budgeting.

WWW.CLASSICCLOSEOUTS.COM

Biore Self-Heating Mask

When it's cold outside, there is nothing better than putting something warm on your face. This mask is awesome and it only takes sixty seconds to work, so you don't have to lurk in the bathroom like some creeper.

Bath & Body Works Warm Vanilla Sugar Body Cream-

There is nothing better than vanilla scented lotion. It makes you feel wholesome and pure and sweet and it's just wonderful and you write run-on sentences, but it doesn't matter because it's just so great. Also the whole smelling like cake thing tends to be appealing to the opposite sex. Just don't eat it. It doesn't taste good. I know.

WWW.IMAGEG.NET

Spooky Shopping

By Rebekah Mintzer '09
Features Editor

Happy Halloween from the Spectator! In lieu of a real fashion column, this week we'd like to take you into the world of Halloween costume fashion, because after all, the big night is right around the corner. These costumes vary from scary to slutty to just plain weird, kind of like a college Halloween itself…

Sexy Hot Dish Pizza Girl Costume
($29.99, halloweenstreet.com)

This website puts a new spin on the token "slutty" costume for those who really want to deliver this October 31st. Ordering from the Pizza Place has never been more exciting…. "Naughty coupons included."

Women's Paris Hilton Prisoner Costume
($32.99, brandsonsale.com)

Hey ladies, want to dress up like one of this year's notoriously damaged female celebrities, but don't want to go through the hassle of head shaving? In that case, Paris Hilton is probably the way to go. The costume includes all of the striped garb, plus prison plate. However, you'll have to pay extra for the blonde wig and glasses.

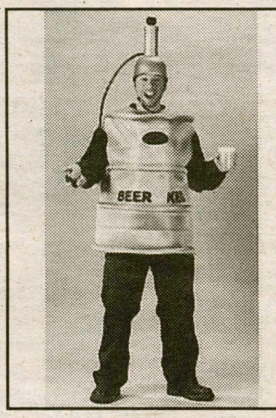
Adult Sumo Wrestler Costume
($39.99, brandonsale.com)

Though we can't guarantee that it will boost your game, this costume will sure stand out. It includes a jumpsuit, hoop, "sumo diaper" and wig. Can be worn by both men and women, and would probably be really entertaining if worn by a big group of people.

Zombie Cheerleader Costume
($19.99, scarepros.com)

This unique, scary and affordable outfit is a great combination of two typical Halloween costume genres. Comes with cheerleader dress, pom poms, and wig.

Beer Keg Outfit
($45.99, costumehub.com)



This costume is certain to be the hit of any Halloween party. Not only can you look just like a beer keg, but you can also literally be one, because the costume actually holds a beverage of your choice. Now, who wouldn't want to tap that?

The Annalist's Letter: Fair Hamilton, Thy

By Bianca Dragan '10
Features Editor

The Half-Century Annalist's Letter represents the continuation of a tradition that began in 1865 when George Bristol prepared the very first letter for the Class of 1815. It was only the second class to graduate from Hamilton and consisted of six members. Almost every year since George Bristol started this tradition, an annalist has reminisced about classmates, the College, and its gifted faculty as they were in his undergraduate days fifty years earlier. Sometimes, the letters start with a sad truth: fifty years after graduation, a great number of the faculty and alumni are missing. Benedict wrote about our alma mater in his letter that "her sons yield to infirmity and decay (...) Her sons die, but she lives."

The Letters have also touched on topics such as the Honor Code, squirrels and trees, fraternities and cocktail recipes. Even pranks that combined ingenuity with great effort, such as stealing the church bell, are reminisced about with a subtle sense of boyish pride. The papers have been so numerous and so different, mingled with personal opinions, impressions and facts that sketch the college and the picturesque figures in the life on the Hill. This chain of letters is not only a highly enjoyable reading experience but constitutes an invaluable historical record of Hamilton's past and is the primary source of information about student life on the Hill over many generations.

Letter of 1865
By George Bristol, '15

"(...) Our time was occupied chiefly in the study of Greek and Latin languages, and mathematics. Dr. Noyes occasionally amazed us with chemical experiments, and during senior year, the rhetorical exercises under Dr. Backus were interesting and profitable. The physical sciences, at that time, were little known or understood in this country, and of course had no large place in the college system of education.(...)

The degree of baccalaurea atrium liberalium was conferred on six persons, constituting the "Class of 1815," and so ended the commencement fifty years ago. Of that class, five of whom are living, three became clergymen, two were lawyers, and one a farmer, cultivating his paternal acres, where he has spent most of his life, and where he expects to die.

Letter of 1873
By Farrand Northrop Benedict, '23

"(...) Hamilton was fortunate also in her geographical location. (...). Escaping the directions and counterveiling influences of the city, and the already fixed habits and comparative effeminacy of a densely populated rural district, she wisely chose her seat on this charming hill, in a region fresh from nature and barbarism.

With the exception of the central and western portions of the State of New York, sparsely dotted with primitive settlements not yet ten years old, a wild solitude spread westwardly of her with no limit but the shores of the Pacific. This was then the most western seat of liberal culture. Primary schools and academies, even then, were sufficiently numerous and efficient to meet the wants of those sturdy and intelligent pioneers. Here was a field for her to cultivate of virgin soil and of almost limitless extent. The unparalleled increase of an acute and homogenous population inspired her hopes and stimulated her energies (...).

In conclusion, let me say to all my brethren that we have a good mother, and we should love her – honorable and we should reverence her – conservative, and we should trust her, progressive, and we should admire her. Her sons yield to infirmity and decay – but her comeliness and vigor increase with her years. Her sons die, but she lives – and "let her live and not die, and let not men be few." "

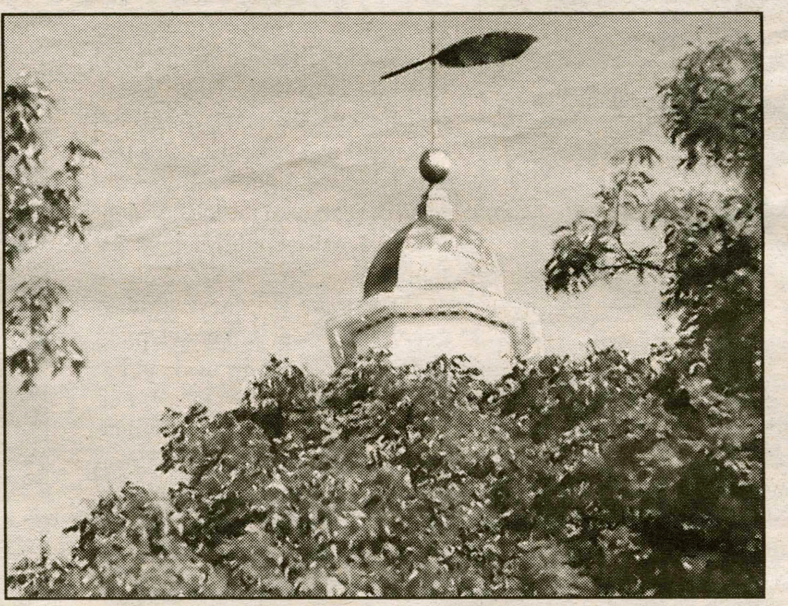


PHOTO BY LAURA RADLINSKI '10

After fifty years of silence, Moses Earl Dunham revealed in his Annalist's Letter the story of the disappearance of the chapel bell.

PHOTO BY LAURA RADLINSKI '10

The Annalist's Letter tradition began in 1865 wrote the first letter for Class of 1815.

Letter of 1889
By Charles Rhodes, '39

"(...) The first arbor day in college was observed in our time. This tree planting was not setting out of a class tree, as is now done, but the planting of a tree by each pupil in the college, in order to make a grove on the college grounds. It was not a success, except that it was the precursor of more tasteful and ornamental work. The campus has grown young with years and literally blooms in a green old age. Credit '39 for a part of this; for the tastes of Gridely furnished a guiding touch in rendering the campus a forest of beauty, strange but grateful to the earlier graduates.

The alma mater is the happy resting-place of our memories, and it is our fervent wish that it may flourish and deserve the continued regard of every alumnus."

Letter of 1891
By Edward North, '41

"(...) If our Society of Hamilton Alumni has no other original feature, peculiar to the soil of Clinton, it can at least make good its claim to have introduced the half-century letter (...). It is more in the nature of an invitation for one who "lags superfluous on the stage," to make his farewell deliverance, to detail his personal reminiscence, and say his cheerful good wishes to the younger graduates before he takes his final sleep (...).

In the innocence of those far-off freshman days, to be a senior was to sit high up on a throne of awful majesty. The senior was a portentous and imposing reality, "the rapt one of the godlike forehead." The senior had an easy, graceful way of manipulating his hair that was just splendid. When he was excited and shook his curls, it was the Olympian stamp of fate. The senior had a way of leaving the chapel after morning prayers, that thrilled the nerves of a freshman with extatic admiration. The senior knew all the mysterious ropes of college life, including the bell-rope, with which he had rung off the freshman rust, and emerged into the brilliant hues of the sophomore. The senior knew all the books in the three libraries, and he could tell you just where to find any needed information (...). The senior was usch an essential fact that the freshman couldn't understand how the college could hold on to its life after the senior's graduation (...).

Clinton was the home of my boyhood. I feel a kind of proprietorship in College Hill and its surroundings. I recall the village as I saw it more than sixty years ago – a dull, sleepy village where, to the inhabitants, existence seemed a pleasure, with little care for anything beyond. I see the white wooden church, standing on the treeless village green; the cows ruminating in its shade or cropping the scanty herbage about it; the pigs wandering in unrestrained freedom where their fancy called them – when it was dry, rolling in the dusty road; when it was wet, bathing in the grateful mud (...).

The students of today would find little pleasure in the college life of fifty years ago. We had no gymnasium, no athletic clubs, no croquet, no tennis, no cane-rushes, no football, no boat races. We played occasionally an improvised game of baseball, but it had none of the complicated rules od the game as played today (...).

Letter of 1897
By Moses Earl Dunham, '47

"(...) The history of the disappearance of that bell has never been written, and it may not be out of place that, after fifty years of silence, the details of the event should be given:

Justus Doolittle was bell-ringer at the time and roomed in the bell-tower, directly under the bell. The only approach to the bell, therefore, was through his room. Hence it was necessary to have Mr. Doolittle away from his room before the bell could be tampered with. At first it was thought that he might be bribed conveniently absent, but more careful consideration of is character and sense of responsibility in the position he occupied, led to the abandonment was delegated to me. Before entering college I had become quite expert in mesmerism, now known as hypnotism, and continued to practice the art during my college course (...). So making arrangements with my landlady, I invited Mr. Doolittle to take tea with me, on the fourth night preceding the one for rust-ringing (...). Mr. Doolittle was put into the hypnotic state and kept there until ten o'clock at night (...). At midnight I met this group of bell-snatchers at the chapel door, from whence we bore the bell to a neighboring field, in which was an immense pile of cobblestone. Excavating a hollow in the top of this stone heap, we put the bell, mouth upward, into the excavation, put back the stones and left the stone heap, in appearance, as though it had not been disturbed. In a great self-complacency, we retired to our rooms, and slept the sleep of the innocent. The bell slept also until awakened by the faculty in the succeeding vacation, having been found and brought back to usefulness under instructions, specifically detailed, in an anonymous letter sent to the president (...).

Before leaving this part of our class annals, there is one more incident worthy of record: The burning of Tacitus. This book finished our Latin course, and we thought so notable an event deserved befitting commemoration. We had read of funeral pyres for disposal of the dead – and surely Tacitus was dead to us from that time, henceforth, and forever more – and what could be more appropriate for our last Latin antagonist overcome than cremation? And so up in flames it was resolved Tacitus should go. Due preparations were accordingly made. I had the honor of

Sons and Daughters Will Ne'er Forget Thee!

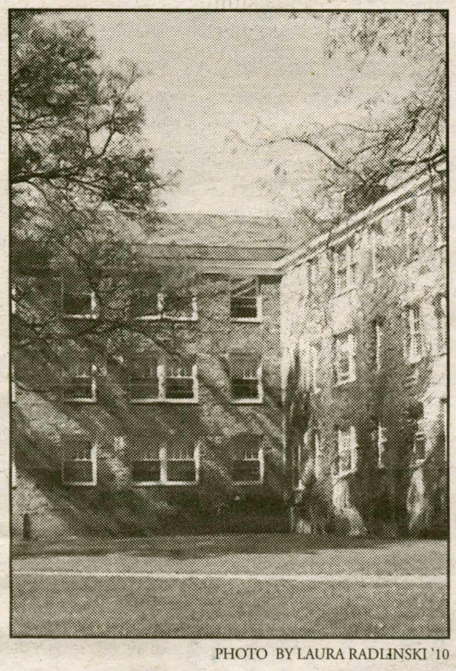


PHOTO BY LAURA RADLINSKI '10

Dunham's namesake was a real prankster during his time at Hamilton.

being the funeral orator, I forget who was to deliver the poem, and Hawley was to furnish the music; torches were prepared, a bier extemporized, and the order of the marchdetermined; and then when darkness had fully settled for the night, the procession was formed, the torches lighted, and the funeral march began. From the front of the chapel down to the highway the procession moved with solemn step, to the strains of doleful music, with the bier borne by four bearers, draped in proper mourning, and reverently approached the funeral pyre (…) In the midst of the ceremony President North appeared upon the scene, and stood with folded arms, looking on, erect as a pine tree, and with eyes that fairly blazed. For a time he said nothing; but as the fire grew furious he stepped up to Hawley and said, "Mr. Hawley, go to your room." "Pretty soon," replied Hawley, as he kept on fiddling (…) Not desiring to unduly exasperate the president, however, for we all greatly respected him, we cast our torches upon the burning pyre and dispersed."

Letter of 2007
By Richard A. Feleppa '57

"(…) How old are we? How long ago was it? We grew up in a black-and-white world. To communicate, we used the pencil, the ink-bladder pen, the manual typewriter – bulky rotary dial phones at home and black, coin-box pay phones away from home. We were analog way before we knew what analog and digital even meant (…). We were before space exploration and the arms race. We were before Vietnam, before Woodstock, the Beatles and the Rolling Stones, before the sit-ins and the love-ins(…).

Yes, the mid-'50s! – when a loaf of bread cost 14 cents, FTD charged $7.50 to deliver flowers, a city subway token was 15 cents, and you paid for lunch at the Automat with a handful of nickels. A man's three-piece grey flannel suit cost $90. And a first-rate, yes, a first-rate education at Hamilton College meant investing $700 a year for tuition and another $750 for room and board (…). Hamilton College was ideal for us. Small like our families. Secluded like our perception of all great asylums, a remote refuge from our folks. Celibate like our worst nightmares. English like our country's forefathers. Protestant like the schol's founders. Latin and Greek like our ancients. Traditional like our values (…).

Like Darwin's Beagle, Hamilton College was to be or vessel of discovery. A crew of dedicated teachers, mentors and friends were going to take us to that someplace else. As far as we were concerned, the outside world could take care of itself. We were off to see the Wizard, the wonderful Wizard of Oz (…).

We climbed the Hill to learn and we learned to climb the Hill. We couldn't believe how steep it was, 12% grade in places. Deep, stepped grooves (designed to give horses' hooves a footing in ice and snow) gave car tires the shakes. For many of us, steepness, unexpected curves and being rattled were augurs of the days to come (…).

Whether we knew it or not, we were special. For every one of us chosen to be here, three had been turned down: 752 applicants for the Class of 1957 compared to a record 4, 909 this year for the Class of 2011.

Here it was: An 18-building campus set in a wooded park of 160 acres, overlooking the Oriskany and Mohawk valleys, along with the Root Wild garden of more than 200 acres. Forty or so homes owned by the College were occupied by faculty and staff. Ten Greek fraternity houses along with two non-Greek houses owned by trustees were clustered up and down the Hill. Some were homey, some grand, some smacking of Frank Lloyd Wright, some very English Ivy (…).

Reality during those celibate years had us traveling far and wide for companionship. Those of us on the quest found out all too well that Cazenovia was a 25-mile hitchhike away. Oneonta, 44 miles. Syracuse, 62 miles. Wells 90, Skidmore 100, and Vassar and Smith could have been on the moon for all we knew!(…)

Issues of The Spectator, our weekly newspaper, reminded us of the advertising market we represented: For gourmands seeking an alternative dining experience it was Alteri's and Zaza's. For discriminating drinkers, it was Utica Club and Genesee. For the almost effete, it was Vitalis and old Spice. For the futurists, it was Brooklyn Law School and The U.S. Air Force. For the smokers, it was Fatima Cork Tips, L&M Filters, Marlboros and Ben Hogan's Chesterfields, "My steady smoke for seven years!" (…)

Soon we were to write in our blue books, "I have neither given nor received aid in this examination." The Honor Code was an important part of our world. It trusted us – allowing us to take a break in the middle of an exam, leave the room or the building, go for a smoke or a coffee, even go to our dorm, and return to complete the test. It was that simple, a written pledge to seal a personal commitment of trust and obligation. It was only one or twice during our four years that a violation required that solemn announcement here in Chapel, "The Honor Court regrets to announce that this member of our student body be expelled from Hamilton College for fraud in an examination." The silence that followed said it all(…).

Music was a big part of our lives here: The singing of college and fraternity songs, military anthems and football fight songs. The a capella Buffers serenaded us. The home-grown, newly formed catatonic Five jazzed it up for us. The musicianship and the Music Department were phenomenal (…).

It was Aristophanes who said, "When men drink, then they are rich and successful and win lawsuits and are happy and help their friends (…). I am not sure how clever we were, how many lawsuits we'd won, but I do know that we lifted a beaker or two, made friends and were happy. Drinking was a big part of life. We drank socially with fellow students and with faculty members not their wives. The legal drinking age in New York was 18, and we took full advantage of the law. We drank not to get smashed, but to have fun – to develop our skills, for it made us better singers, better dancers, better buffoons (…).

Our drinks bordered on the exotic, with a touch of the profane. Juniper gin and canned Concord grape juice became a "Purple Jesus." Fraternities had their cocktail parties and Chi Psi their Friday afternoon champagne affairs, all well attended by faculty and staff. members of Nous Onze ("We Eleven"), a fledgling organization, pledged that neither sleet nor rain nor dark of night would prevent its members from successfully making their accustomed rounds. Earle Schemerhorn recalls a perfect recipe for house party Sunday mornings: "Nous Onze Milk Punch," only the freshest of milk, freezing ice cream and lots of brandy in a five-gallon milk tin - to be stirred gingerly with a broom handle and enjoyed heavenly.

Borrowing from Hemingway, "We had such damn good time together."

But we didn't come here just to eat and drink, be entertained and get dolled up, although we tried our hand at all that. We came here "to celebrate intellectual activity."

If the weave during our years was wine, women and song – then the warp was learning how to write, to speak and to think for yourself. It was expected of us then, and we treasure these skills today. Many aspects were compulsory (four years of public speaking for example), but for a very good reason. Writing was important in every field of study. Here, every professor was a writing professor (…).

Suffice is to say: There is not one amongst us who has forgotten the time and place of that "A" – or when a professor asked to keep a "labor of love" paper- or when his suggestions put us on the right path. "

After spending so much time digging in the archives, copying the letters and taking notes, reading and selecting fragments written by such famous alumni, I thought of current Hamilton students, their memories and my own memories about Ham lton in these days. I asked two current Hamilton seniors to imagine themselves fifty years after graduation. What would they reminisce about Hamilton? If you read carefully, you can find similarities with the above-mentioned letters…

Prospective Letter of 2058
By Jessica Yau '08

If my memory is spared, I know that I'll look back longingly to my days at Hamilton. Fifty years from now, John Winthrop will roll over in his grave when I envision Hamilton as my ideal "city upon a hill." My children will blush as I dazzle my grandchildren with stories about endless supplies of free beer, countless sexual opportunities, traveling with debate, and a few especially wonderful professors.

As I think about graduating this year, I know that I'm going to miss listening to Professor Simon's stories about golf and his grandchildren. It might be naïve of me, but I love Hamilton because I feel like my professors actually care about me. I've enjoyed delicious home cooked meals at several professors' houses and even been taken out to lunch in town. Thanks to Professor Adair, I know that the Dessert Booth has chocolaty slices of heaven. Most importantly, I feel like my professors want me to success and so I work harder.

I'll also never forget my experiences with Debate. I am proud to say that through Debate I've meet some of the smartest, most annoying, and surprisingly promiscuous people I'll ever encounter. The crash course on Urban Dictionary that I received while on a car ride back from Columbia's Novice Debate Tournament was especially enlightening. While on Debate I've gotten the opportunity to travel across the country; without Hamilton's generosity I still would never have been to Chicago.

Fifty years from now I may not remember anything from my college days, but if I do, I hope my memories will dwell on the personal relationships I've created throughout my time here.

Prospective Letter of 2058
By Erica Fultz '08

Fifty years from now I probably won't remember the teachers, the staff, or even most of the other students here. Instead, what will stick out in my mind will be the squirrels and the crows. Freshman year I was awakened every morning by bloodcurdling screeches of the giant black birds perched on my windowsill, and although I struggled to appreciate the crows that year, now that I've lived on the other side of campus for two years, I've come to like them. Sitting on the edge of the curb despite the cars flying by only feet away from them, the crows don't let anyone or anything deter them from what they want to do. I find that impressive. I've also seen these darling birds eat grosser things than any drunk frat guy would touch, which has provided me with some other, slightly less sentimental memories – but good ones nonetheless.

As for the squirrels, my day is truly brightened each time I encounter one on the quad in front of Kirkland. They hop along from tree to tree and dart out irrationally in front of cars, narrowly missing death. Nothing is cuter than the silly little dance they do to pat the ground flat over their newly-buried acorns! I swear my heart skips a beat when I see a squirrel standing on only two legs, and I cannot hold back giggles when they're chased by tiny brown chipmunks around and around. Oh silly squirrels! Don't you realize you're bigger than the chipmunks?

If I returned to campus fifty years from now, it wouldn't be to see the rumored waterfall in KJ, or the card-swiping system for the laundry I was told already existed when I toured campus four years ago. No, it would be to see my old friends the squirrels and the crows, to revel once more in their adorable dances and feats of boldness that have left such an imprint on me these last few years.

Weekly Charts

by Ashley Stagner '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

MUSIC
(From iTunes)

Top Albums
1. Carnival Ride - Carrie Underwood
2. Across the Universe (Music from the motion picture) - Various Artists
3. Coco - Colbie Caillat
4. Chase This Light - Jimmy Eat World
5. Raising Sand - Robert Plant & Alison Krauss

Top Songs
1. Kiss Kiss - Chris Brown
2. Apologize - Timbaland
3. Bubbly - Colbie Caillat
4. Crank That - Soulja Boy
5. No One - Alicia Keys

MOVIES
(Yahoo! Box Office Charts)
1. 30 Days of Night
2. Tyler Perry's Why Did I Get Married?
3. The Game Plan
4. Michael Clayton
5. The Comebacks
6. Gone Baby Gone
7. We Own the Night
8. Tim Burton's Nightmare Before Christmas
9. Rendition
10. The Heartbreak Kid

BOOKS
(From The New York Times Best Seller List)

Paperback Fiction
1. LOVE IN THE TIME OF CHOLERA, by Gabriel García Márquez
2. WATER FOR ELEPHANTS, by Sara Gruen
3. THE KITE RUNNER, by Khaled Hosseini
4. THE MEMORY KEEPER'S DAUGHTER, by Kim Edwards
5. MIDDLESEX, by Jeffrey Eugenides

Paperback Non-Fiction
1. EAT, PRAY, LOVE, by Elizabeth Gilbert
2. INTO THE WILD, by Jon Krakauer
3. 90 MINUTES IN HEAVEN, by Don Piper with Cecil Murphey
4. THREE CUPS OF TEA, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin
5. THE GLASS CASTLE, by Jeannette Walls

"30 Days of Night": Back to the Tradition of Terrifying Vampire Movies

by Rebecca Griffin '09
Arts & Entertainment Editor

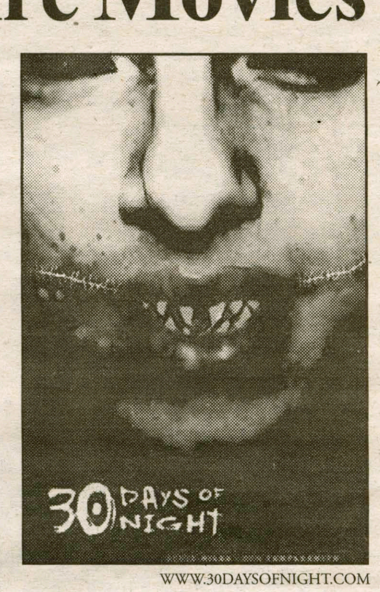
Instead of the debonair, seducers of the night, vampires return to their terrifying, bloody portrayal in "30 Days of Night." It has been a long time since a vampire's were done justice as frightening villains in a movie but these were nothing short of terrifying. The appearance and actions of the villains makes up for the uninspired actions of the human characters to make the movie engaging and chilling.

"30 Days of Night" is a sort of survival guide to vampire attack in the worst setting: the complete darkness of a month of Alaskan winter. Taking place in Barrow, Alaska, the movie tells the story of those members of a town that elect to stay and weather out a month of darkness. Among those that stay behind are Sheriff Eban (Josh Hartnett) and his estranged wife Stella (Melinda George).

Finding themselves one of the few survivors of a bloody massacre to the town, the two band together with several others to make it to the next sunrise. Unfortunately, it's hard to survive against enemies that can't be killed, that is unless you hit them with an axe several times.

"30 Days of Night" was directed by David Slade who creates masterful action scenes that manage to be both terrifying and artistic at the same time. The killers really control the film, even without dialogue, as they disturb the audience with their feral, animalistic nature.

Overall, this was one of the best, and least hokey vampire movies to be released. Genuinely terrifying at times, the plot is pretty fluid and filled with enough violence to keep your attention. While a bit absurd at times it's definitely worth seeing. "30 Days of Night" is in theaters now.



WWW.30DAYSOFNIGHT.COM

Forewarning: I bite.

This is only the Beginning for this Band: The Last Goodnight

by Jennifer Vano '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Despite the lead singer's mohawk, the suit-clad boys of The Last Goodnight may have a career in modeling if this music thing doesn't work out. And, though I must admit the title of their debut album, *Poison Kiss*, sounds a bit like the next big Hillary Duff film, both the album's 12 tracks and the boys themselves are definitely rock.

Without being concrete hard or cotton candy light, Kurtis John's passionate vocals and the band's poetic lyrics will make you want to settle into a comfy chair, get up and dance, meditate on life and love and sing-along all at once. Heavy drums and guitar riffs are syncopated with bluesy and inescapably committed piano and haunting harmonies—a marriage which makes each of the tracks exciting, unpredictable, and altogether satisfying (and has worn out the poor little repeat all tab on my iTunes).

WWW.MYSPACE.COTHELASTGOODNIGHT

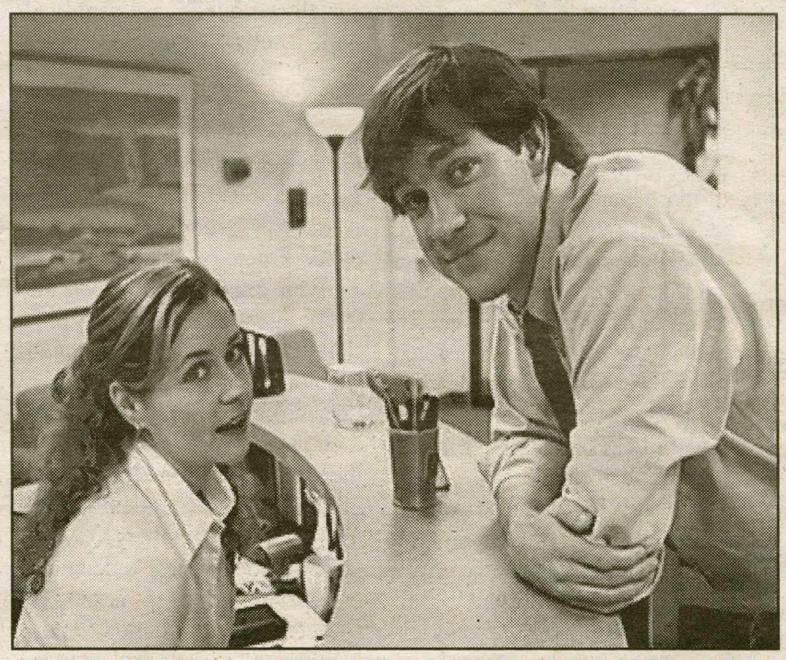
Behold the mohawk of justice.

So it seems to me that although I can't classify them—their influences include Ella Fitzgerald, Massive Attack, Supertramp and U2—they've definitely dropped something major on us that makes me both excited and a little nervous (they are just good). And it seems that The Last Goodnight is going to have one long, successful career. Sorry, Armani, you're going to have to the wait. In the meantime, do as the band says and *get up, get out, stay wonderful* and buy this album; after all, *all this* amazing music; *is waiting for you.*

Discover :
- www.myspace.com/thelastgoodnight
- www.thelastgoodnight.net Listen
- Poison Kiss now available in stores everywhere and on iTunes.
- The first single, Pictures of You, airing in Brothers and Sisters promos on ABC (airs Sundays 10/9 c)
- "Pictures of You" video makes TRL debut 10/24
- U.S. tour through end of November

Jim Halpert: "The Office" Obsession

by Alex Ossola '10
Arts & Entertainment Writer



WWW.NBC.COM/THEOFFICE

Awww!!! It's Jim and Pam! Aren't they cute?

So, don't even lie, "The Office" is your favorite show on TV. The quirky doctors and medical anomalies of "Gray's Anatomy" have got nothing on the unique mock-u-mentary style of "The Office."

Although all the characters are idiosyncratic and entertaining, the absolute favorite among the female audience is, of course, Jim. We all felt his pain when he moved to Stamford because of his unrequited love for Pam and laughed at every single one of his pranks on Dwight. Andy says that Jim's the hottest guy in the office, and we all definitely agree.

While he can seem like a tweenage boy at times, Jim shows a side that is mature and sympathetic. According to one loyal female viewer, who is the proud owner of an "I love Jim" notepad, "Jim is really genuine and sensitive, but guys can still relate to him because he doesn't sacrifice his manliness for his emotions. Plus, he's like, sooooo dreamy."

But Jim's appeal isn't restricted to the female viewers; guys can relate to Jim's universal sense of humor and cunning wit. One dedicated male viewer says, "Everyone wants to be him; he's really cool, but he doesn't try to be someone he's not. He doesn't need to be 'the man,' and he doesn't want to be. He's comfortable being who he is, and the person he is is awesome."

Also, Jim's pranks aren't mean-spirited and he is still compassionate to his coworkers, as we saw last week when he comforted Dwight in his guy-ish, oddly eloquent way.

As women, I think we all like to live a little vicariously through Pam as well. Jim hates his job, he's overqualified but lazy and it's implied that the only reason he stays with Dunder-Mifflin is because of Pam. Who wouldn't want a guy that devoted to her? He's loyal, good-hearted, hilarious, charming and attractive; a gal would have to be crazy not to go for him. He definitely leaves me satisfied and smiling… that's what she said.

My First German Cigarette

by Geoffrey Hicks '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The following article is an original story written for the original work section of Arts and Entertainment.

My first cigarette was smoked at the age of fifteen. I was visiting my father's home where he rented the top floor of an old widow's three story mansion in a predominantly Jewish suburb. We were the only black family for blocks, perhaps miles. The widow's house was on the corner of a busy street, but at night cars rarely drove by. Our dad had retired early to bed, in fact, we all had, but one o'clock in the morning had tolled, and I was still awake. My brother Josh had left earlier that week to attend a young adult Christian camp, and the room had since felt empty, because of his absence, and foreign, because it wasn't my normal bedroom.

Suddenly, the space under my closed door revealed a dim flickering and then a bright flash of light. I knew it came from the hallway. Then I heard the hinge of Meredith's bedroom door creaking and saw the light vanish as her feet crept downstairs. A minute later I folded my blankets back and rose from my bed to follow her down the stairs. She was sitting outside on the widow's front porch, puffing on a newly lit cigarette when I arrived. A trail of smoke floated above her head like dialogue in a comic strip. She was smothered in a small quilt, shivering, slightly, in the breezy summer air. I opened and shut the front door without making a sound, standing barefoot in plaid boxer shorts and a white v-neck undershirt. She sat hunched in a ball with elbows resting on her knees, the quilt falling down her back like a cape. Beside her lay an open "zigarette" carton and a metal lighter. I tiptoed behind her.

"Meredith," I whispered, grinning. She shot up and spun around with eyes bulging at me.

"You scared me!" My grin brightened. She laughed it off and tapped out the ashes. She took another deep drag, failing to contain a smile.

"Do you do this every night?" I asked, taking a seat on the cool granite steps.

"What? Come outside? No. I've been awake the whole night. Iris keeps snoring." Iris was our younger sister. "All day she's been saying, 'Meredith, don't smoke! It's bad for you!' So, I told her, 'Okay, I won't smoke.' But I've been craving a cigarette all day. I'm getting addicted." She smiled guiltily as she sucked in the gray fumes, her mouth contorting like a fish. She turned her head self-consciously toward me, evidently aware of my observant eyes. While the cigarette protruded from her lips, she rubbed her unshaved legs up and down with her hands.

After about five minutes she shook her head and tapped out the last ashes against the cement steps. She then took a final half-hearted drag from what remained of the cigarette and abandoned the butt with an experienced flick. She was classy. She pulled out another long and lean "zigarette:" German, she explained. She beamed greedily as the small flame danced atop her lighter. She ignited the new cigarette and puffed for joy. Then she remembered me. Meredith shook the carton, shuffling the cigarettes which rattled inside. I looked at her gleefully.

"Do you want one?" she asked.

"Me?"

"Go ahead. It's fine with me."

"Sure," I said suspiciously. For a second, my fingers dangled over the small proffered carton, but I brushed off my hesitation, pinching and removing a long white "zigarette." I popped it into my mouth like a pill and then asked my sister which end I was supposed to light. She told me.

"But why doesn't it have that yellow part at the top?" I slid a finger along the filter end which was white.

"They're German," she reminded me.

"But how are you supposed to know which end to light?"

"Just don't light the filter and you'll be fine. Here, give it to me." Meredith lit my cigarette, which sizzled and glowed as she breathed life into it. She was like a 1940s film star. I puffed and she puffed, watching one another from the corners of our eyes.

"It's good, right?" she asked.

"Yeah. Real good." I felt cool. I watched as she blew a smoke ring.

"Hey, how do you do that?"

"Like this—watch." She took another drag and demonstrated. I mimicked the shape of her mouth and it worked on my first try.

"Hey, look!" I exclaimed, pointing at the tiny halo just above forehead. She smiled, and exhaled smoke from her nostrils like a fire breathing dragon.

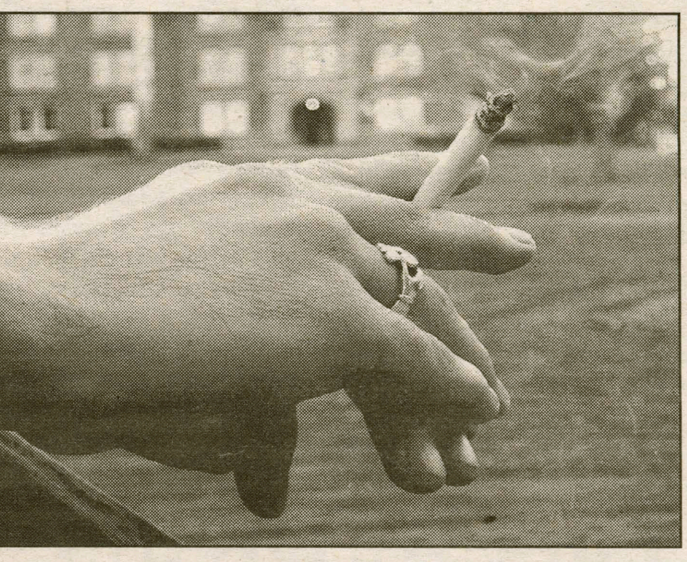


PHOTO BY MELISSA BALDING

"My first cigarette was smoked at the age of fifteen."

"How do you do that?" I asked her.

"Do what?"

"Make it come out of your nose like that?" Once again, she demonstrated, but I couldn't quite follow.

"Try it," she egged. I lifted the cigarette back to my mouth and swallowed the smoke like a glass of water. She watched and waited, but my eyes began to fill and my throat burned. I let out a loud cough, then a wheeze, and then another cough. Meredith laughed. I stood up to walk down the cement path which led from the porch's granite steps to the asphalt street. Meredith sat behind me on the porch laughing and slapping at her thighs. I stopped and turned around, still coughing into my fist.

"Not funny," I wheezed out, but my voice sounded more like a raspy Darth Vader than my own. I turned to face the street and I could feel my stomach bubbling from the inside. I doubled over and vomited onto the road. Dark smoke rose from my emission.

"Oh my goodness!" Meredith rushed over, still wrapped in her quilt, her cigarette bouncing from her lips. "Are you alright?" she asked. I burped.

"What do you think?" I fired back.

"It's just that I've never seen that happen to anyone before," she said with a poorly contained smirk.

"Well, I'm so glad you got a good laugh out of it." I was embarrassed. I was bitter. The taste in my mouth was bitter. I never wanted to smoke again. Meredith dropped the remainder of her cigarette on the ground. Then she rolled her heel over, her hip turning from side to side like she was dancing the twist.

"You're not gonna finish that?"

"No. Let's just go inside." She wrapped an arm around my shoulders and held the top corners of her quilt together in front with her free hand. Together, we walked back in the house.

90'sMovie: Grosse Pointe Blank

by Jennifer Mitchell '09
Arts & Entertainment Writer

Are you sick of scouring Blockbuster's New Release display, trying to find a movie you haven't seen? Are you tired of seeing movies with "Long Wait" statuses pile up in your Netflix queue? Read my weekly article to discover great movies a decade or more old that are new to you.

This week's "New to You Movie" is the action-comedy, "Grosse Pointe Blank". This film, released in 1997, offers a fantastic combination of romance, comedy, and gunfire.

John Cusack stars as Martin Blank, a professional assassin facing his most daunting assignment ever: attending his ten-year high school reunion. Minnie Driver plays opposite Cusack as Debbie, Martin's high school sweetheart. Between taking out the trigger-happy assassins and rekindling a romance with the girl he stood up on prom night, Martin has his work cut out for him.

WWW.IMDB.COM

Yes, you're a hitman. Yes, I love you.

Some audience members may question how they are supposed to root for a killer-for-hire, but the creators of "Grosse Pointe Blank" solve our moral dilemma. Sure Martin kills people for a living, but only bad people! Martin establishes his decency when he shuns a job offer to detonate a Green Peace boat, declaring "No way! I have scruples!" Martin explains his philosophy to his therapist, "If I show up at your door, chances are you did something to bring me there." As Martin sees it, it is not his actions that bring about their violent deaths; it is their own wrongdoings. And let's face it, when the hit man in question is as adorable John Cusack, who really wants to argue with him?

I strongly recommend this movie for the strong performances given by every member of the cast. Cusack is so charming and funny that the audience has trouble holding his brutal occupation against him. The chemistry and rhythm of his interactions with Driver would be enough on their own to power the movie. Alan Arkin as Dr. Oatman, Martin's reluctant therapist, creates another engaging dynamic. His repeated therapeutic advice to Martin, "Don't shoot anybody!" is a great running joke that prevents the audience taking Martin's profession too seriously. Dan Aykroyd's performance as Grocer, the pill-popping assassin/maniac out to create a hit-man's union, firmly establishes this movie as a must-see. You can't not love a movie where the main villain's catch phrase is "Bing, Bing, Bang, Bang, Popcorn!!!"

See this movie and the next time someone tells you their business is professional killing, pause a moment before deciding whether or not they're kidding.

Want to write for A&E?

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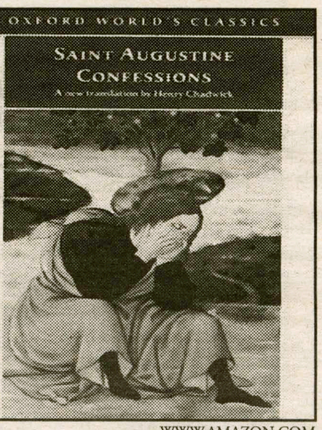
Book Review: Augustine's "Confessions"

by Alex Ossola '10
Arts & Entertainment Writer

I have been trying to read about Augustine's confessions for a week now, yet, somehow, this 300-page book is dragging on slower than any other book I have ever read. Written around 400 A.D., the dense, evangelical style of this book makes me want to take a long walk off a short pier. Usually, I like being forced to read books I would not usually read. For this Comp Lit class, I have already read parts of both the New and Old Testament of the Bible, the Epic of Gilgamesh, all of Plato's Republic, and the Pañcatantra. Even if parts of these works were difficult for me to get through, I finished them and, eventually, enjoyed them. This will not be the case with Augustine, if I ever finish.

Just to illuminate for those of you who have been lucky enough not to have read this book, Augustine was born in 354 in Algeria. He ascended the ranks to the post of a famous and successful teacher of rhetoric and moved from Carthage to Rome to Milan. In his early years, Augustine had serious doubts about the Catholic Church and, as he reached maturity, became ensconced in a cycle of lust and carnal desires until he eventually "gave his body and soul to God." Sounds like something we, as college students, could relate to, right? Au contraire. Every other line of this lengthy narrative praises God and His infinite wisdom and, even worse, tries to convert the reader. That is something that, as a non-Christian, I *really* don't appreciate. I know that's one of the main goals of this narrative, to convert people, but I personally am not up for converting right now, so the whole text strikes me as pontificating and annoying.

So, here's my book review for this week: St. Augustine's Confessions: one very large thumb's down.



WWW.AMAZON.COM
Even he is depressed.

The Maybelles will Bring Their Old Time/New Time Sound to the Kirkland Arts Center

by Ginger Parker
KAC Coffeehouse Coordinator

A trio that calls itself The Maybelles after Mother Maybelle Carter of the Carter Family fame, will perform at the Kirkland Art Center (KAC) Coffeehouse on Friday, October 26 at 8 p.m.

Jan Bell, lead singer and guitar and harmonica player, lives in Brooklyn, NY but hails from Yorkshire in the UK; Melissa Carper on stand up bass and vocals is from Arkansas; and Katy Rose Cox, with her flying fiddle is from Austin, TX, but when they play together they sound like one of those all-girl groups from Appalachia in the '30s.

While the group has a traditional sound and loves to perform some of the old gems such "Red Rockin' Chair" and others, and they also sing some of Jan's clever originals that speak of Coney Island or the Brooklyn Bridge, still sounding like something that might have been played on early mountain radio.

"They sound like they might be the grand daughters of country greats from the 1930's, 'The Wild Wood Flowers,'" said Charlie Gillett of BBC London.

The Maybelles, are touring the northeast in support of their new CD "Leavin' Town" and will be playing at venues in New England and New York City as well as the Kirkland Art Center. They have performed at festivals in the Ozarks, New Orleans and Brooklyn and have opened for several living legends, including Emmylou Harris, Ray Charles, Wanda Jackson and Odetta.

WWW.MAYBELLES.COM
Belles from the South.

Tickets for this coffeehouse can be purchased in advance with a credit card by calling 315 853-8871 or stopping by the Art Center.

General Admission is $18 and KAC Members $15. Hamilton Students with and ID can be admitted for $5.

The KAC Coffeehouse, this year, is celebrating 25 years of bringing nationally and internationally known acoustic performers to the art center with concerts in a gallery setting, with homemade refreshments available.

Don't miss the Maybelles perfroming at Hamilton this Friday! They will be having a workshop with Lydia Hammessley at noon in Schambach 201. Don't forget to bring your lunch!

For more about The Maybelles see: www.themaybelles-music.com

Jon Fredric West Performs in Wellin

by Michelle Reiser-Memmer
Arts & Entertainment Writer

The Hamilton College Performing Arts Classical Connections series will present a recital by the internationally acclaimed operatic heldentenor Jon Fredrick West on Saturday, Oct. 27 at 8 pm in Wellin Hall at the Schambach Center for Music and the Performing Arts.

West will perform Gesamt KunstWerke (Whole Art Works): Wagner Words Wisdom West, a recital of selections from Richard Wagner's famous operas Die Walkürie, Tristan und Isolde and Siegfried with his long-time accompanist Kenneth Bowen, piano.

WWW.HANDELMANIALIBSYN.COM
Don't Miss this Concert.

West, who relocated to Utica with his wife two years ago to be closer to their daughter and granddaughter, is an internationally acclaimed tenor who regularly performs at some of the world's most prestigious opera houses including New York, Stuttgart, Madrid and London. For this concert, West encourages patrons to leave their preconceived ideas of opera, and especially Wagner's opera at the door.

West began his musical career early. He was singing by the age of three and joined his first choir at age 12. After receiving his undergraduate degree from Bowling Green State University, he went on to obtain a masters degree from the Opera Theater program at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City. He completed post-graduate studies at the Julliard Opera Theater.

Although he is known today for his heldentenor roles as Tristan (Tristan und Isolde), Siegfreid (Siegfried, Götterdämmerung) and Siegmund (Die Walküre), Wagner is something of a "second career" for West. Throughout the 70s and early 80s West built a name for himself as an Italian tenor. As his voice matured and his career took off, West began to perform more and more German opera. In West's own words "You must do what your voice tells you to do." He became accepted as a true heldentenor when he was chosen to sing the role of Tristan at the re-opening of the famous Prinzregententheater in Munich, which was built specifically for Wagner's music.

Tickets for Jon F. West's recital are $5 for Hamilton students. Group discounts are available. For more information or tickets, call the box office at 859-4331 or visit www.hamilton.edu/college/performingarts.

Don't forget about Omar Sosa Jazz tonight!

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$18 adults/$12 senior citizens/$5 students

Location: Wellin Hall, Schambach Center Campus Map

Contact: Michelle Reiser-Memmer
mreiserm@hamilton.edu
315-859-4

Sponsor: Performing Arts

Open to: Public

Information from Hamilton web-site.

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SAW IV — STADIUM SEATING
●1:00●3:20-5:30-7:40▲9:50 DTS R

DAN IN REAL LIFE — STADIUM SEATING — STEVE CARELL, DANE COOK
●12:40●2:50-5:00-7:10▲9:25 DTS PG-13

ELIZABETH THE GOLDEN AGE — CATE BLANCHETTE
●2:00-6:50 DTS PG-13

JOSH HARTNETT #1 MOVIE
30 DAYS OF NIGHT
●12:20●2:40-5:05-7:30▲9:55 DTS R

DISNEY'S THE GAME PLAN — THE ROCK
●12:15●2:30-4:45-7:00▲9:10 DTS PG

THE COMEBACKS
●1:10●3:00-4:55-7:05▲9:05 PG-13

WE OWN THE NIGHT — JOAQUIN PHOENIX R
●2:15-4:40-7:25▲9:45

GONE BABY GONE ●2:10-4:30-6:55▲9:20 R

RENDITION — REESE WITHERSPOON
●1:50-4:20-7:15▲9:40 R

MICHAEL CLAYTON — GEORGE CLOONEY
4:25▲9:15 DTS R

Sarah Landon and the Paranormal Hour — FR-SAT-SUN
●2:10 PG

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ADMISSION $5.00 ALL SHOWS BEFORE 6:00
EVENING ADMISSION W/COLLEGE ID $6.00

Hamilton Students to Visit Bodies Exhibit in NYC

by Elijah LaChance '10
Science and Technology Editor

On November 4, 54 members of the Hamilton community, including both students and faculty, will head south to New York City to view what has become one of the most recognizable scientific exhibits in the world. Bodies... The Exhibition has been awing audiences (and sickening a few of them) for over two years now from its home at 11 Fulton St. on the Seaport. The exhibit consists of human cadavers with the skin partially or completely removed and the bodies placed in different common lifestyle poses.

This trip has long been championed by Professor of Biology Sue Ann Miller, who has long taught a course on vertebrate anatomy. "I've always though it would be a great trip for my students to go on," she said. "It's a really well-done thing." The trip will not be limited to members of Miller's course, however, or, for that matter, to Biology majors. Instead, the trip will be open to any member of the Hamilton community.

The trip was finally organized by the student group BioMatters after several aborted attempts. The group was supported with funding from the Biology Department, the Office of the Dean of Faculty, the Student Assembly, and Student Activities. The result of such a broad fundraising effort was to lower the price dramatically. The trip will cost just $20 per person.

Bodies... The Exhibition was started three years ago in Tampa, Florida. Today, there are displays in nine major U.S. cities. The New York exhibit is the largest of any of the Bodies... The Exhibition exhibits to date.

The technology for such exhibits has been in existence since the mid-1970s (the key was stopping the bodies from smelling), but exhibitions have only begun to gain public notoriety and approval within the last 15 years. One reason for the delay in acceptance was laws relating to donating one's body after death. For many years, cumbersome red tape kept the supply of cadavers in U.S. medical schools short. With so few bodies available for medical training, exhibitions like the one in New York City were simply out of the question.

Eventually, emerging health threats such as cancer and AIDS showed the need for bodies in medical research to such an extent that legislation was changed to make it easier to plan on donating one's body - or to donate the body of a family member - to medical research. In addition, bodies that remain "unclaimed" when found can also be used for research. As such, the possibility of bodies exhibitions began to bloom.

WWW.SEATTLEPI.COM

Other competing bodies exhibits include the "Body Worlds" exhibit featured in the latest James Bond 007 film, *Casino Royale*. BioMatters members explained that they chose "Bodies... The Exhibition" over "Body Worlds" largely for ethical reasons, since several cadavers in "Body Worlds" exhibits had been proven to have been procured illegally. Specifically, the bodies were obtained overseas in areas where bodies of indigents were still buried in mass graves. The bodies were instead transported to the U.S. for use in the exhibits. While "Bodies... The Exhibition" has also endured accusations of illegal activity concerning how it gets the bodies it uses in its exhibits (there was a large NY Times article in 2005 claiming that some of the bodies were illegally obtained from the Chinese government), none of these claims have held water.

The human body has always compelled and repulsed humanity, especially after the body is dead. In ancient Egypt, graverobbing was considered an equal crime to murder and many Halloween figures (zombies, ghosts, and Frankenstein to name a few) are based on the concept of the re-animation of a formerly deceased corpse.

Nevertheless, the scientific benefit of the experience is undeniable. "One of the great things about a college like Hamilton is the unique opportunities to explore," Tom Vilsack '72, former governor of Iowa and presidential candidate, once said. Surely few would argue that it was opportunities like this one, supported by a broad range of student-run and administrative organizations, to which he was referring. Sign-ups for the trip will be from 7:00-8:00 p.m. in the Science Center Atrium. Past bus trips to New York City, including a trip sponsored by CAB this semester to see a show at Dangerfield's Comedy Club, have sold out very quickly, so BioMatters organizers are recommending that those interested in going on the trip arrive well in advance.

From Off the Hill: One Last Lecture

by Kate Tumarello '11
Science & Technology Editor

We've all been bored and tempted to sleep during lectures given by our professors. This was not the case during Randy Pausch's "last lecture," given at Carnegie Mellon last month.

The idea of a "last lecture" has become more and more popular in recent years. Basically, a well known and well liked professor shares his views on a subject he cares about as though the words were his last. Evidence of this trend can be seen at institutions like the University of Northern Iowa, Stanford, and Cornell. Although the topics of the speeches given range from "Get Over Yourself," by University of Northern Iowa professor Penny O'Connor, to a speech about technology and sex given by Cornell professor Ellis Hanson, their shared element is that these are the deep thoughts the professors would want to impart to their students if this was their last chance to teach them.

Many people are oblivious to the fact that their influential and inspirational speech will be their last. Martin Luther King Jr. said, "Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place." The speech was given the day before he died.

Randy Pausch, on the other hand, knew this lecture would be one of his last chances to teach. At 46 years old, and with three children, Pausch has been diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and has been told he only has a few months left to live. He took this opportunity to tell his students about the lessons he has learned in his life.

Although he started his lecture with a CT scan showing the ten tumors on his liver, and despite his morbid situation, his speech was anything but morose. He explained to his audience that he was there to talk about the freedom of life, not the restrictions of death and dropped down to the floor to prove he could do one-handed pushups.

He showed the audience pictures of himself as a boy while describing his childhood dreams. These included the typical childhood goals of winning that unnecessarily giant stuffed animal at a fair, walking in zero gravity, designing amusement park rides for Disney, and writing an entry for the World Book. At this point in his life, he has achieved each of these goals and proved this by letting members of the audience carry out his large stuffed animals.

He mentioned his background in technology, and claimed he "experienced a deathbed conversion" and had "just bought a Macintosh." He also mentioned setbacks in his career and shared his inspirational idea that 'brick walls are there for a reason. They let us prove how

see ***Professor****, page 20*

Did You Know That?
Let's Talk About Sex, Baby!

by Tara Apo '10
Science and Technology Writer

- *December 22 is Global Orgasm Day, an effort towards world peace. Everyone is encouraged to participate (especially in countries with weapons of mass destruction) in order to send a surge of positive field energy throughout the world.*
- *A man's beard grows fastest when he anticipates sex.*
- *Ultrasound tests have revealed that male fetuses are capable of getting erections during the last trimester.*
- *A pig's orgasm can last for thirty minutes.*
- *Over 450 animal species exhibit homosexual behavior resulting in ejaculation. 450 species can't be wrong.*
- *Male bats have the highest rate of homosexuality of any mammal.*
- *In 2003, a pair of male penguins in the Central Park Zoo, who had been a "couple" for years, raised a baby penguin together.*
- *The penalty for masturbation in Indonesia is decapitation.*
- *Humans, Bonobo monkeys, and Dolphins are apparently the only species that have sex for pleasure.*
- *The largest penis in the animal kingdom belongs to the Blue Whale at eleven feet.*
- *The animal with the biggest penis relative to its body size is the barnacle. Its penis can grow to ten times the length of its body.*
- *In Lebanon, men are legally allowed to have sex with animals, but the animals must be female.*
- *Some elephants are said to intertwine trunks after lovemaking.*
- *Female praying mantises eat the head of their mates after or during copulation.*
- *A female Giant Squid might accidentally bite off parts of her mate during sex.*
- *Until 2003, Oral sex was illegal in several states in the US. In some cases the penalty was prison.*
- *Male lions may mate over fifty times a day.*
- *The US has more laws governing sexual behavior than every country in Europe combined.*
- **Venus Observa** *is the technical term for missionary position.*
- *Sex is actually good for you. Having sex a couple of times a week can: relieve headaches and stress, unblock stuffy noses, make skin smooth, and boost the immune system, not to mention make you very happy. Get to it!*

What's on the Web?

Weekly Website Review

DailyTech.com

by Kate Tumarello '11
Science & Technology Editor

Rating:
(out of 5 beakers)

The last thing I expect to see when reading an article about the recent shutdown of the UK's TV-Links.co.uk is a picture of Johnny Depp as Jack Sparrow from Pirates of the Caribbean. Likewise, a picture of Dr. Evil from Austin Powers seems out of place in an article about Congress and telephone companies. These strange but recognizable characters add to the unique character of DailyTech.com.

It seems like any website that needs to match pop culture icons with serious articles has a serious problem of attracting readers and a superficial solution. DailyTech.com, a website that offers articles and reviews on the most relevant topics in science and technology, does not fit this idea. The website has plenty of things to attract readers besides their comical pictures. The most important advantage of DailyTech.com is the simplistic design.

Aside from being aesthetically pleasing, DailyTech.com is also incredibly easy to navigate. Every article is separated by categories, which include Auto, Gadgets, Hardware, Internet, IT, Science, and Software. While the alphabetization of the categories would be enough to please any person as obsessive compulsive as I am, the categories are again broken down into subcategories. If you need information on a specific topic, DailyTech.com is one of the places where it can be most easily found.

You can do more than just read about the information on DailyTech.com. Readers are allowed to comment on the articles and often end up creating a discussion board on the topic of the article. This feature is helpful in that it gives you both the writer's opinion and the opinions of other readers. While this can be helpful in reading the thoughts of others and expressing your own views, it can also be useless. I could easily comment on an article under the Hardware section of the site while knowing very little about the content of the article, or anything about technological hardware for that matter.

> "Just a few minutes of browsing, and you'll find that DailyTech.com can both give you the information you're looking for and make you laugh."

Another downside of DailyTech.com is their advertisements. Following the recent trend, their advertisements run on Adobe Flash, and there is often more than one per page. This requires more time for each page to load. Luckily, the time not wasted on html clutter from the minimalistic design of the site makes the time wasted on loading ads less noticeable. While the ads load, you can still focus on the content of the article and the picture of Jack Sparrow to go along with it.

While the funny pictures do serve to catch the reader's attention, they also deliver a certain image about the website. Just a few minutes of browsing, and you'll find that DailyTech.com can both give you the information you're looking for and make you laugh. Along with the funny pictures, there is a changing quote at the bottom of the home page. It's obvious that when Kristopher Kubicki founded the site in 2005, his goal was to provide just that: information and a laugh. He certainly succeeded.

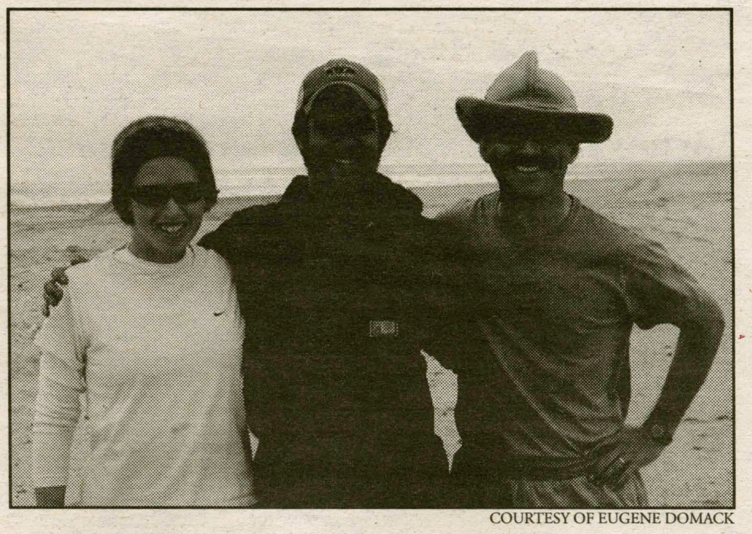
> "FAR OUT IN THE UNCHARTED BACKWATERS OF THE UNFASHIONABLE END OF THE WESTERN SPIRAL ARM OF THE GALAXY LIES A SMALL UNREGARDED YELLOW SUN. ORBITING THIS AT A DISTANCE OF ROUGHLY NINETY-TWO MILLION MILES IS AN UTTERLY INSIGNIFICANT LITTLE BLUE GREEN PLANET WHOSE APE-DESCENDED LIFE FORMS ARE SO AMAZINGLY PRIMITIVE THAT THEY STILL THINK DIGITAL WATCHES ARE A PRETTY NEAT IDEA." ~ DOUGLAS ADAMS

PROFESSOR PROFILE

Eugene Domack, Geoscience

THE FACTS:

Name: Eugene Domack
Department: Geoscience
Home State: Wisconsin
College: University of Wisconsin
Research Includes: Climate change in ice shelves, snowball Earth rocks, Late Peleozoic glacial climates in Australia



COURTESY OF EUGENE DOMACK

Domack poses with Tim Fox '08 and Mary Beth Day '07 on the Skeleton Coast of Namibia in August, 2006.

INTERVIEW SECTION:

Elijah LaChance: If you were to describe yourself in three words, what would they be?

Eugene Domack: Hardworking, excitable, misunderstood.

EL: What would you say is your teaching style, and what can students expect who are in your classes?

ED: High expectations, demanding, I give students some rope, they can use it to climb out of the knowledge vacuum by themselves or... I set the stage for students to be independent learners. I stress overarching principles and use the small details to bolster these philosophical guideposts.

EL: What is your funniest and/or most embarrassing childhood memory that you wouldn't mind sharing?

ED: When I was four, our family was on a holiday "up north" on one of the great Wisconsin flowages. My sister came out of the water with a big leech on her leg. I panicked and I took off down the dock the wrong way and ended up in over my head in Big Sandy Lake.

EL: What are your current research interests, and how are students working with you?

ED: Snowball Earth Rocks from Namibia, East Greenland, and Svalbard. Tim Fox ['08] was in Namibia with me in August of 2006 and he has been a steadfast co-worker on various projects. The most recent was his senior thesis on the clast character of these strange glacial limestones that date to the time when animals first evolved on earth. [I am also interested in] Holocene climate change in the Antarctic and the history of the Larsen Ice Shelf; here Kim Roe ['08] has been a great colleague for over two years now and she is completing her senior thesis in fine fashion on sediments collected under the Larsen Ice Shelf. I am also intersted in Late Paleozoic glacial climates in Australia and here Andrew D'Amico ['08] has taken up the cause by focusing on a new fossile leaf we discovered in Tasmania this past summer. Taylor Burt ['08] is furthering along the initiative to develop a better understanding of radiocarbon dating in the Southern Ocean by studing the age profiles in deep cold water corals.

EL: What is your favorite band or singer, your favorite ice cream flavor, your favorite book, and your favorite home-cooked meal?

ED: Nickel Creek; chocolate with almonds; A Fortunate Life [by Albert Facey]; anything my wife cooks.

EL: How did you eventually choose to teach geoscience for a living?

ED: As a kid I grew up hanging around gravel pits, learning to love the scenery of SE Wisconsin, and generally enjoying outdoor activities.It was a "no brainer" the Geology in undergraduate days was for me, as it gave me the only venue to get outside. Now I get paid to do it, so that is great thing to be thankful for.

EL: Why Hamilton?

ED: At the time, "the undergraduate only" approach attracted me, as there was no pressure to develop research programs. I wanted to utilize my abilities to attract exciting research to our students (to give their talents a chance to shine), something that I could not fathom as an undergraduate at the University of Wisconsin.

EL: Do you have any habits students might notice? If so, what are they?

ED: I use lots of arrows in my whiteboard drawings. I show too many pictures of dropstones.

EL: What areas of geoscience most interest you and why?

ED: Global stratigraphy because it forces one to think conceptually along lines similar to what we need to be doing to solve the current climate crises and such studies give us insight on how earth wide systems actually operate. Glacial sediments of all types, ages, and geographies, because they post the most difficult questions for interpretation.

EL: What is your fondest memory from your time at Hamilton?

ED: I would have to say having dinner with Vice President Gore this last April at President Stewart's house and at my wedding in 2001 when eight former Hamilton students came back to Central New York to share in the festivities.

EL: Other than the Science Center, where can students find you on campus?

ED: Good question. With the new boat on Oneida Lake and my daughter now at four years old, I do not spend much time around campus after the work day.

SCI & TECH EVENTS CALENDAR

SUNDAY, OCT. 28:
Sign up to go to NYC!
Bring $20 and your meal card number!
Get signed up for the BioMatters trip to NYC Nov. 4th. Admission to "Bodies... The Exhibition" included
First come, first served!
7:00 - 8:00 p.m. SCCT Atrium
If you can't make it, submit $20 and meal card number to SCCT 2037 anytime

MONDAY, OCT. 29:
Dr. Richard Goldsby, Department of Biology, Amherst College
"Human antibodies from loned human artificial chromosome transgenic cattle"
4:00 p.m. SCCT 2017
Refreshments will be served

MONDAY, OCT. 29:
Hamilton Diversity and Social Justice Project Alumni Panel: "Health Matters"
Jeff Long '05: Analyst, Revolution Health
Alison Lin '03: Research Associate, Mailman School of Public Health
Josier Collier '97: Counseling Consultant, Washington University Medical Center and Kaiser Permanente
7:30 p.m. SSCT G041

SUNDAY, NOV. 4:
BioMatters Trip to NYC Featuring Bodies: The Exhibition
Bus leaves from ELS at 6:00 a.m.
Sign-ups 7:00 p.m. SCCT Atrium, Oct. 28
First come, first served! $20 for students

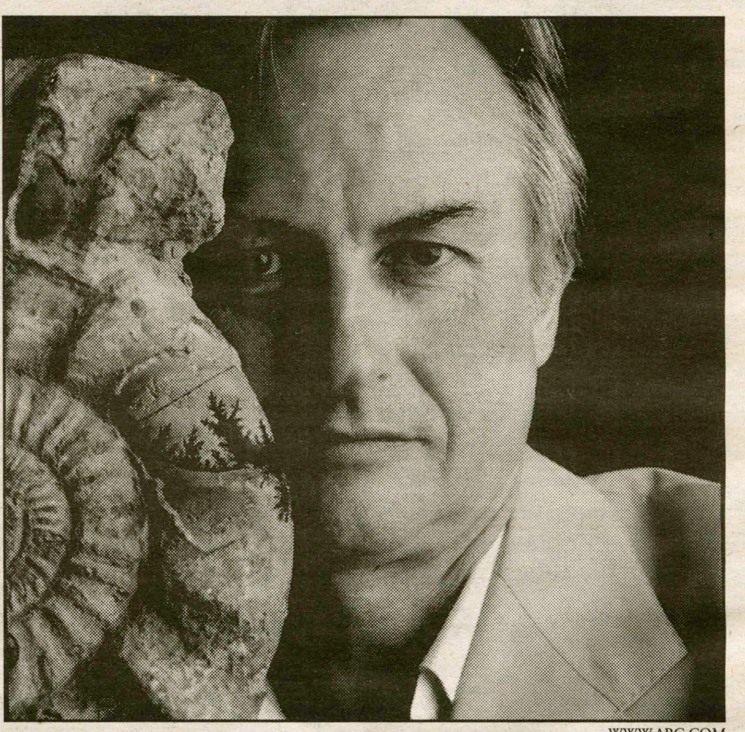
MONDAY, NOV. 5:
Dr. Ed O'Loughlin, Biosciences, Argonne National Laboratory
"Microbial and Geochemical Controls on Biogenic Fe(II) Speciation and Reactivity."
4:00 p.m. SCCT 2017
Refreshments will be served

"THE IMPORTANT THING IN SCIENCE IS NOT SO MUCH TO OBTAIN NEW FACTS AS TO DISCOVER NEW WAYS OF THINKING ABOUT THEM."
~WILLIAM LAWRENCE BRAGG

The Scientist's Bookshelf: *The Selfish Gene*, Richard Dawkins

by Kate Tumarello '11
Science & Technology Editor

Rating: (out of 5 beakers)



WWW.ABC.COM

Richard Dawkins is known in scientific circles as "Darwin's bulldog" for his staunch support of evolution.

I would have never imagined that a book about genes written by a zoologist would have been at all interesting to me. Obviously, I was wrong. *The Selfish Gene* by Richard Dawkins managed to capture my attention for 215 pages, despite the boring appearance of the only copy I could find in our library.

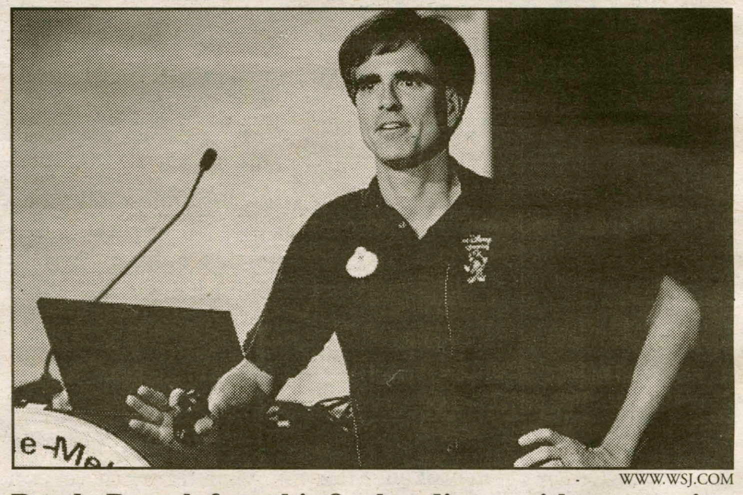
Dawkins makes his intentions very clear from the beginning. He wants to discuss natural selection and the reasons behind it. He also explains his view of his audience. *The Selfish Gene* is written with three types of people in mind: the average person with no knowledge of biology, the scholar with what I would consider too much knowledge of biology, and the student, who is already increasing their knowledge of biology. Although technically a student, I considered myself as someone with no knowledge of biology when approaching this book, since I can barely remember the little biology I learned in high school.

Regardless of my ignorance when it comes to biology, I was more than able to follow and understand *The Selfish Gene*. It is written with someone like me in mind. I was able to understand what I read and was even interested in the material. I was compelled by Dawkins' almost science fiction-style portrayal of the inherent selfishness of our genes and their fight for survival. Turns out we're not supposed to benefit from natural selection, our genes are.

One of the most impressive things about the book is the overall message. While biology is the main topic of the book, *The Selfish Gene* raises questions about human nature. Dawkins asks if conscience should outweigh the process of natural selection and the selfishness of our genes. Discussions in class seem to revolve around the nature of humans. The thought that human nature doesn't matter is a refreshing one. We should be able to look past our instincts, whether they compel us to be good or evil, and do what we have been taught is right.

A Professor Lectures Once More

from ***Lecture****, page 18*



WWW.WSJ.COM

Randy Pausch faces his final audience with great poise.

we want things." He also encouraged his audience members to be patient with other people, claiming that if we "Wait long enough…people will surprise and impress you."

Continuing the discussion of his career, he explained the fulfillment he receives from teaching and claimed that by helping his students achieve their goals, he had gotten more satisfaction than had he worked towards only his own goals. One of the specific experiences he mentioned was having his students create videogames without violence or sex, and how he was "surprised how many 19-year-old boys run out of ideas when you take those possibilities away." Still, all of his students rose to the challenge.

He praised his parents, who let him draw mathematical notations on the wall of his bedroom, despite the effect these etchings may have had on the resale value. He urged other parents to act in the same supportive manner and said, "If your kids want to paint their bedrooms, as a favor to me, let 'em do it." This support he received from his parents only increased as he grew. Although his mother introduced him as "A doctor, but not the kind who helps people," Pausch knew his mother was proud of him and all of his accomplishments, both academic and personal.

He also spoke about the legacy he was leaving behind. As one of the nation's leading teachers of virtual-reality technology, he helped to create "Alice," a software project for Carnegie Mellon that allows people to more easily create three dimensional animations. He claims that "Like Moses, I get to see the Promised Land, but I don't get to step foot in it," but that it's alright, because he "will live on in Alice." Although Pausch acknowledges the fact that he will not be here to experience this "Promised Land," he encourages his students and colleagues to continue these efforts without him.

While the speech mainly covered aspirations and how they are realized, he also addressed his loved ones. Towards the end of the lecture a cake was presented for his wife, whose birthday had been the day before. As hugs were shared and tears were shed on stage, the audience sang "Happy Birthday" while shedding some tears of their own.

The speech is available online and was taped so his children, ages five, two, and one, can watch it when they are grown. The final words of the lecture were "This is for my kids." The audience met these words with a well-deserved standing ovation.

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sm...............*$1.50*.........................*lg*........*$2.50*

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Panko Fish Fry
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BBQ sauce, chicken breast,onions & mozzarella..........................*$15.99*

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Chicken breast, mozzarella & spicy buffalo wing sauce (mild, med, hot)..........................*$15.99*

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Pepperoni, peppers, onions, mushrooms, sausage & tomatoes....................*$16.99*

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Whole wheat pizza dough offered upon availability.

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20	$8.50
30	$12.50
40	$15.50
50	$18.50
100	$34.99

Blue cheese & celery $1.50

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SPORTS

Volleyball Team Heads to Connecticut This Weekend

The Continentals are Fighting for a Berth in the NESCAC Conference Tournament

by Brandon Leibsohn '10
Sports Editor

The volleyball team has been fighting for a berth in the NESCAC Championship Tournament the past two weeks. The Continentals put together a three match win streak, gained invaluable non-conference tournament experience, and continued to develop team chemistry. There have been significant contributions from a number of different players allowing for the team to utilize its great depth.

On October 13, the Continentals were able to break out of a conference slump and win their first match in conference play since October 19, 2002. They were on the road and took on NESCAC foes Colby and Bates College. In the first match against Colby, Hamilton was able to pull out a three game sweep rather easily. Colby was not able to match up well against the return game from the Continentals. Kristen Seldon '09 and Cate Schafer '10 were the team's leaders in kills, and Kelsey Lawler '11 continued to present opportunities for her teammates with 22 assists. Amber O'Connor '09 was on the top of her game as she had four aces to go along with her team-leading 12 digs.

In the second match on October 13, Hamilton swept another conference rival in three games. They were even more impressive than in their earlier victory, as they did not allow Bates to get more than 24 points in any of the three games. Jasmine Jolly '10 contributed with eight kills, and Michelle Fisher '10 was able to dig the ball out on ten separate occasions.

The third victory came against Cazenovia College in the final home match of the year on October 17. Cazenovia ended up getting swept by the Continentals in three games. Jo Fier '11 had 11 kills and Lawler contributed with 31 assists. Alex Singh '11 took charge with her powerful serve and caught Cazenovia off guard on six different occasions. O'Connor continued to move up the career dig list with 17 digs.

After the team finished their final home match, they headed off to participate in the Skidmore College Classic. Although the team was unable to maintain its winning streak, they were able to capture sixth place overall at the tournament against mostly Division II competition. In the first game, the Continentals took on St. Lawrence University and fought a grueling five game match. The team overcame two losses in the first three games and forced a tiebreaker in which they came up just short. O'Connor and Lawler played exceptionally well as they led the team in digs and assists, respectively.

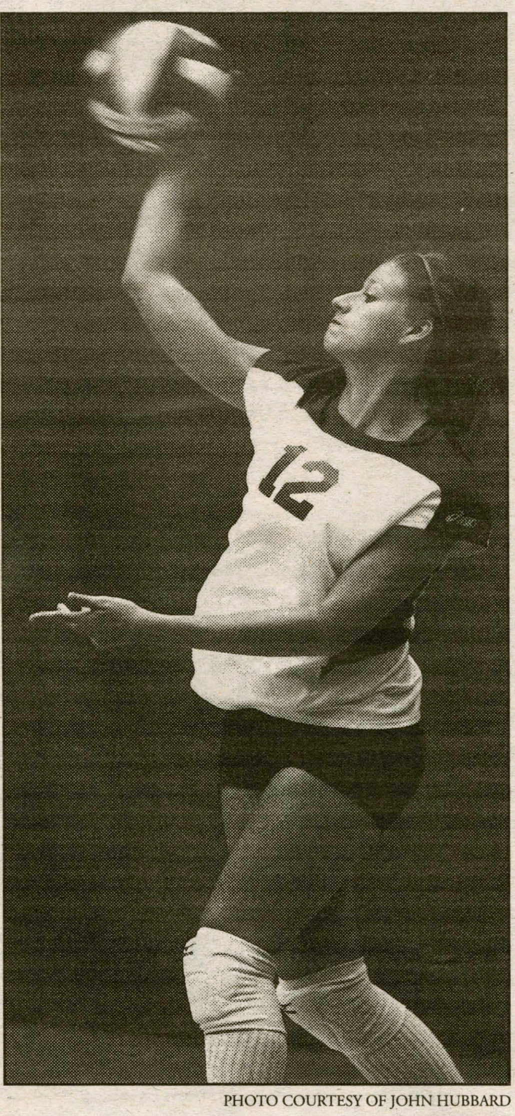

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN HUBBARD

Alex Singth '11 has shown her powerful serve on numerous occasions.

After losing to St. Lawrence, the team was able to get back with a win against St. Michael's College. The match went to four games, and each was pretty close. Seldon played the best match of her career when she was able to slam 22 kills. Lawler made Hamilton history when she collected her sixth ace of the match, giving her the all-time school season record with 79 aces.

The Continentals took on Colby-Sawyer for the chance to earn fifth place in the tournament. Hamilton started off slow but quickly rebounded and forced the match to go to four games, with one going into overtime. Signh had a career-high 17 digs in the defeat. Lawler played so well throughout the tournament that she was named to the all-tournament team.

Hamilton had to go on the road again against Hartwick College on October 23. The match lasted only three games, but the biggest margin of defeat was only five. The Continentals exerted enough effort to win, but just could not get the job done. O'Connor surpassed her own school record for digs in a season by ten in this match and she is looking to make it an even greater margin with a few games remaining. She also moved up on the career dig list and is currently fourth best in school history.

The Continentals have three matches remaining and have a chance to qualify for the NESCAC Tournament. They currently reside in the eighth slot, one game ahead of Bowdoin in the loss column. This weekend the team will head off to Connecticut College to take on Trinity, Wesleyan, and Connecticut College over a two-day span. The most important matches will be against Trinity and Wesleyan because it presents Hamilton with the opportunity to move up in the conference standings, potentially giving them a better seed in the NESCAC Tournament. If the team is able to keep up its consistent play, then there is a great chance that they can make it into the tournament with the potential NCAA berth on the line.

Mock NFC Playoff Picture

by Jacob Murray '09
Sports Writer

Since we all know that the Indianapolis Colts and the New England Patriots are the best two teams in the NFL and will most certainly play each other in the AFC Championship game, then what two other teams from the NFC will have a shot winning the Superbowl? The Cowboys have been the favorite up to this point in time, but there are other forces in the NFC that will give Dallas a run for their money. Six teams from the conference will make the playoffs: four division winners and two wild cards. So which teams would make it?

#1: Dallas Cowboys- With a 6-1 record and the hardest game of their schedule completed, all they have to worry about is three straight division games. If they can beat the Giants, who have won their last five games, and the 5-1 Packers, Dallas will be the leading candidate for home field advantage in the playoffs.

#2: Green Bay Packers- After their bye week, they play a couple of above average teams. As long as they get their running game going, Brett Favre may be able to grab a first round bye in the playoffs.

#3: Tampa Bay Buccaneers- Even though they are not winning the division as of now, Jeff Garcia will overcome the loss of Cadillac Williams. The Panthers do not have a good enough quarterback to keep their team in first place.

#4: Seattle Seahawks- Despite some inconsistencies and lackluster performances from Shaun Alexander, the Seahawks are by far the best team in their division. Unless Arizona turns around their season after the loss of Matt Leinart, Seattle is the only team that deserves a playoff spot.

Wild Card: New York Giants- Even though they are second in their division, they are currently the second best team in the NFC. Their defense has shut down the last five teams they have played, and Eli Manning continues to prove his critics that he is a force in the NFL.

Wild Card: Detroit Lions- With a high-powered offense led by Jon Kitna, the Lions round up the top six teams in the NFC. If their defense can stop some of the better teams they play in the upcoming month, they might even give Green Bay a scare.

Mock Playoffs:

Wild Card Round- Tampa Bay vs. Detroit Lions
Even though the Lions consistently score more than twenty points a game, the Bucs are a better all-around team. Kitna has not done well versus blitz-prone teams, and Derrick Brooks has sacked his fair share of quarterbacks.

Seattle Seahawks vs. New York Giants
The Giants clearly have the edge in this game, with a defense that has sacked more quarterbacks than any other team in the NFL. Also, Seattle's running game has regressed, which has put more pressure on the quarterback.

Divisional Round- Dallas Cowboys vs. New York Giants
This game could be a toss-up. Tony Romo's high powered offense may struggle against the Giants defense. In the end, the Giants seem to be playing more consistent football and currently have the biggest win streak in the NFC. Go Giants!

Green Bay Packers vs. Tampa Bay Buccaneers
Favre deserves one last shot at the NFC championship game, and he would love to beat his former division rivals. The improved defense wins it for the Packers.

NFC Championship- New York Giants vs. Green Bay Packers
I may be biased because I am an avid New York Giants fan, but this match-up clearly favors the Giants. Without a consistent running game, Brett Favre will be forced to take on too much. Plus, the connection between Eli Manning and Plaxico Burress gets stronger every week.

Do you watch Sportscenter four times a day?

Support the Continentals at every home game?

Write for Spec Sports!

Contact (lgetman) or (bleibsoh)

SPORTS

Field Hockey Team Keeps on Fighting to Regain Success

by Abby Perer '09
Sports Writer

One game remains in the 2007 field hockey season, leaving the Continentals (4-9) to question how such a talented team fell short.

At the start of the season, the team felt like they could be a serious contender this year, setting an ultimate goal of reaching the Liberty League playoffs. However, after a promising 2-1 start, the Continentals suffered four losses in a row. With a 2-5 record at the midpoint of the season, they knew it was time either to start winning again or give up hope of a Liberty League title.

So, with the season on the line, the girls welcomed nationally ranked St. Lawrence University (12-2) to Campus Road Athletic Field on September 29 for a Liberty League showdown. After going into halftime trailing by 0-1, Hamilton's Amy Allen tied the score 1-1 with 13:13 left in the second half. Then, with 45 seconds remaining in the game, Natalie Schwerin '08 scored the game-winning goal on an assist from Jess Goldberg '08. This thrilling upset victory showed the Continentals' true potential; with great offensive and defensive performances, not to mention the 20 saves by goalie Courtney DeMaria '10, the team became the competitors that they knew they could be from the beginning.

On October 5, Hamilton suffered a disappointing 1-3 loss at Rensselaer (5-5), and once again the Continentals had to face the reality that their playoff hopes were slipping away. So, on October 6, they pulled together and defeated Vassar (2-9) 2-1.

Knowing that they could overcome disappointment to get back on track and win when they needed to, it looked like things were turning around for the Continentals. Thus, they looked ahead to the next game of the season with high hopes, taking on Nazareth (7-4) at Campus Road Athletic Field on October 11. However, the first half of the game did not go as planned, and Hamilton went into halftime trailing 0-3. The second half was a completely different game though, as the Continentals - a second half team this season - tied the game 3-3, forcing overtime.

However, things went awry in overtime when the goalie DeMaria collided with a Nazareth player and was forced to leave the game. As a result, first-time goalie Sarah Bray '11 replaced DeMaria and was unable to stop Nazareth's game-winning goal with a few seconds remaining.

The disappointment of the 3-4 loss to Nazareth left many of the players deflated, and the Continentals lost the next two games to Skidmore 0-1 and then to Union 0-6, ruining any chance for a trip to the playoffs. Despite the absence of this chance, the Continentals continue to work hard and prepare diligently – even agreeing to practice on a Sunday - for their final game against SUNY Oneonta on October 30.

The team has not lost the spirit or intensity that they had at the beginning of the season. They know that the close scores of nearly all of the games that they played reflect the heart and effort that went into the season, and they can walk away this year with few regrets. In the words of captain Marley Berns '08, "we have a really great group of girls and had a lot of fun as a team this season. Even though we did not make the Liberty League playoffs, we had impressive games against many ranked teams. I'm really proud of all the effort the girls put into the team this year, and am expecting great things from the group next season."

PHOTO COURTESY OF JOHN HUBBARD

Colleen Callaghan '11 is one of the team's best offensive players and leads the team in scoring with 20 points.

Crew Competes at Head of the Charles

by Christine Raia '10
Sports Writer

Last weekend, Hamilton Varsity Crew competed at the Head of Charles Regatta in Boston, Massachusetts. The Women's Varsity Eight boat performed very well and came in twenty-fifth place out of the 44 teams that competed. They beat many of their conference rivals, including St. Lawrence and William Smith.

The Women's Varsity Four boat with coxswain Ana Maria Diaz '10 completed the race with the twenty-sixth fastest time.

The Men's Crew Varsity Four boat was very impressive as they came in thirteenth place. This boat was led by coxswain Ricky Bottini '10 and stroke seat Charlie Palanza '10.

Overall, Head Coach Eric Summers has been very satisfied with the team's performance this fall. He believes that both the men and women's teams are ahead of last season, adding that there are now enough members on the team to have two eight boats row against each other during practice, making practice much more intense.

Captain Katie Goodwin '08 is also very pleased with the team's progress emphasizing the improvements the team has made to both their physical performance out on the water as well as to their mental game. "This year we sat down and set some goals for the season and talked about where we want to place at races. It's nice that our team is at a place where we can do that and set high expectations."

Fellow team member Annie Bowler '08 added, "I'm really excited about this year; we have the perfect balance of excitement and experience to put together a powerful season. The approach Coach Summers has taken with the team over the past four years is a culmination of a good technical base and a lot of talent."

Both the Men's and Women's Team have their next and final race of the fall season on Saturday at the Head of the Schuylkill in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The Women's Novice Eight and the Men's Novice Four will also attend and compete for their first

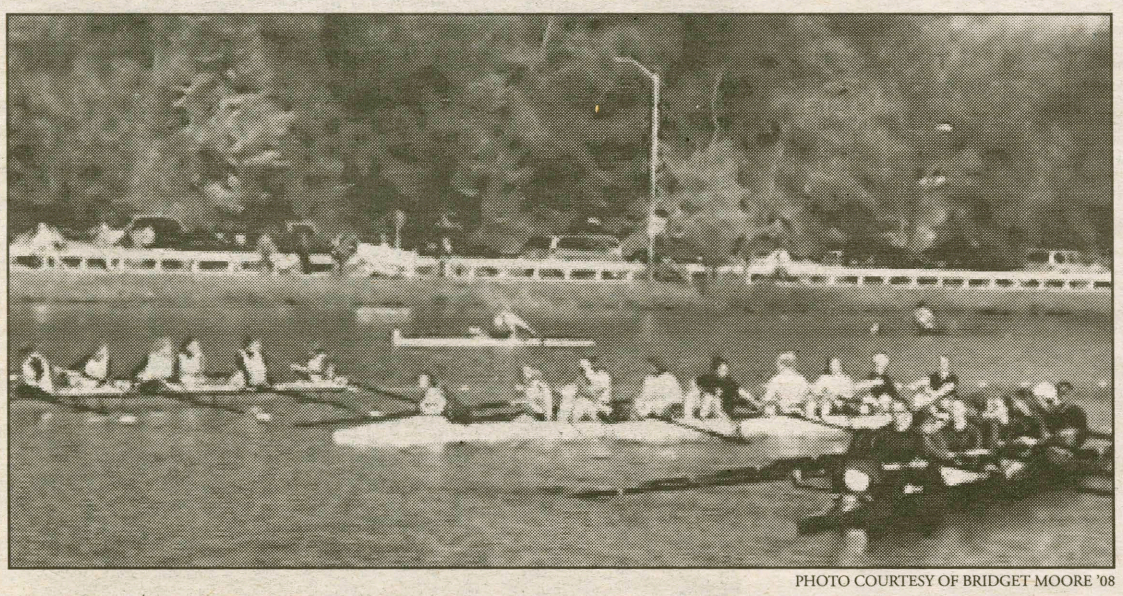

PHOTO COURTESY OF BRIDGET MOORE '08

The Women's Varsity Eight boat finished their race in 18 minutes and 41 seconds.

Women's Soccer Unbeaten

by Lindsay Getman '10
Sports Editor

The Hamilton Women's Soccer Team has plowed through every opponent they have faced this season. They have moved up to No. 8 in the NSCAA/adidas National Rankings. They are 12-0-1 for the second time in four years with a 6-0-1 league record that allowed them to clinch a share of the Liberty League regular season title.

The game against Clarkson on October 21 was the final game in a trio of home contests. It was also Senior Day, and the seniors shined for the Continentals. Nicole Tetreault '08 had two goals, while Taylor Brady '08 had one. Kim Bauer '08 added her third assist of the season. Megan Brosseau '08, Ali Grant '08, and Annie Harleman '08 each played their final home game as a Continental.

Two Hamilton players set program records against the Golden Knights. Caitlin McGilley '08 had four saves and chalked up her 20th shutout of her career, a Hamilton all-time record. Erica Dressler '09 added one goal and one assist in the contest. This brought her tallies for the season to nine assists and 31 points, also program records.Laura Brandimarte '11 had an unassisted goal. The Continentals trounced the Golden Knights 5-0.

They had a 30-9 shot advantage over Clarkson. The win extended the streak on Love Field to 15 games.

This week, Dressler and McGilley were honored by the Liberty League. Dressler was named the Liberty League and ECAC Division III Upstate region Offensive Performer of the Week. McGilley was named the Liberty League co-Defensive Peformer of the Week. She is ranked second in the league with a .34 goals against average. This is the second time receiving this award this season for both players.

The Continentals beat St. Lawrence University 5-1 on October 20. Dressler had two unassisted goals and one assist. Tetreault scored a header off a corner kick by Anne Gravely '11. Katie Lyons '11 was assisted on her goal by Brandimarte, and Brady was assisted by Dressler.

McGilley had five saves, and Kate Fowler '10, who finished the last 12:40 in goal, had two saves. McGilley allowed her first goal this month and only her fourth this season.

The first in the most recent trio of home games was on October 13 against Utica College. McGilley had four saves. Fowler played the last 15:30 and did not face a shot. Tetreault's shot was knocked past the Utica keeper by her own defender. Brady scored on a corner kick that curved inside the near post. Lyons was assisted by Ricki Feldman '10 on the third goal.

Hamilton will conclude their regular season at SUNY Oneonta at 1 p.m. on October 27.

A Hamilton College Student Publication, Clinton, NY Volume XXXXVIII Number 8

H SPECTATOR SPORTS

October 26, 2007

Rugby Exiles Go Undefeated in Regular Season

PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE ROWE '09

The Hamilton College Rugby Exiles crushed the competition this season going 7-0.

by Erin Hoener '10
Managing Editor

Many Saturday afternoons this fall, a roar has been heard coming from the Dark Side. The Hamilton College Rugby Football Club has been kicking butt and taking names on their way to an undefeated regular season. While the Exiles have won each of their games this fall season rather handedly, this success did not come easily. Captain Steve Rowe '09 explained, "This year's undefeated season is exactly what the Exiles deserve. Coming off of last fall's state championship, we haven't stopped playing rugby. In the winter we go out each Saturday and play rugby in the snow in addition to working out in the gym. This February, we even went to a "Snugby" [Snow+Rugby = Snugby] Tournament out in Buffalo. In the spring, we have a full season of tournaments and matches, and over the summer many players keep playing with local men's clubs. This fall, we have been practicing hard and it shows." Captain Jon Milgrom '08 added, "We also have to contribute a lot of our success to the dedication of our coach, Brad Jones."

Both captains, Milgrom and Rowe, could not be more enthusiastic about the heart and courage of the team. Rowe explains, "Exiles Rugby is a special team here at Hamilton. We have a bunch of guys that love playing rugby on the pitch and socializing together off of the pitch. We welcome everyone to join and keep practices intense, but also inherited a long tradition of having fun from past teams. Being a club sport, we -the players - have ownership of the team, and along with that comes an incredible dedication to the team and motivation to keep our level of success high."

This dedication and enthusiasm can be seen in the large number of students participating on the team. The team has so many members that they are able to field not only an "A-side" but also a "B-side" on which younger, less experienced players gain experience. Bill Getman '09, captain of the B-side, emphasized the importance and dedication of this year's B-side. "The improvement and general level of our B-side players has increased infinitely since the beginning of the year and our A-side boys wouldn't be anywhere near as good as they are now without the depth and support that the B-side provides."

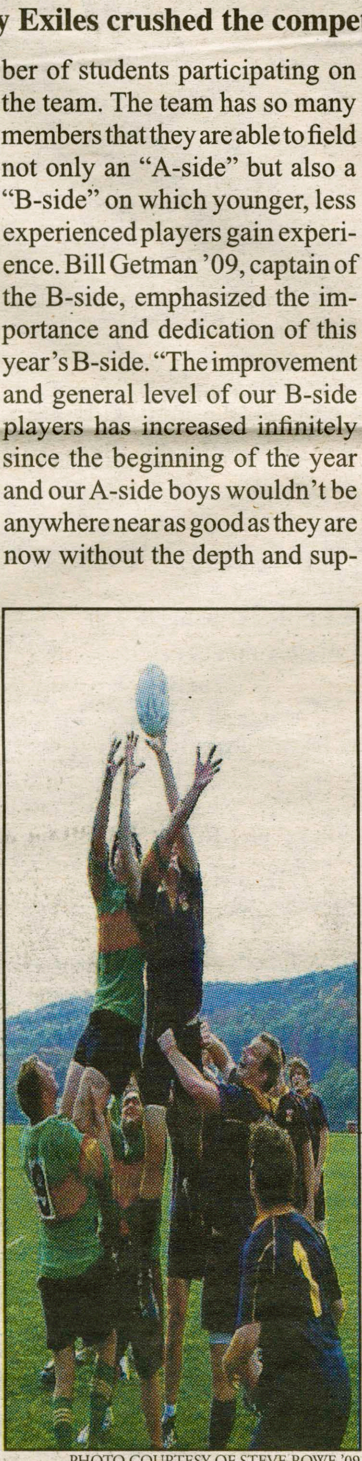

PHOTO COURTESY OF STEVE ROWE '09

Rich Bryan '08 helps lift Steve Rowe '09 to fight for the ball in a line out.

According to the team's website, Exiles Rugby began in 1066 when "William the Conqueror contracted hooker and former captain 'Uru the Exile' to conquer the islands of Britain." The Hamilton College Rugby Football Club was "reformed" in 1977 and has been a vital part of the Hamilton community ever since (even if it has not always been valued by the administration). Through the 80's and 90's, the team worked to improve, but faced many difficulties from the lack of coverage by school media to the lack of support from the College's administration. This lack of support lead the team to change the club name from "Blues" to "Exiles" to "reflect the anti-administration sentiment that pervaded the team" at the time.

Fortunately, much has changed in the last ten years as the team's success has increased along with the school's support of club activities. "I think the administration has realized that the rugby teams are very serious about the sport and want to support a club that is extremely inclusive and provides high level inter-collegiate athletic competition," commented Rowe. Milgrom and Rowe were quick to credit Dave Thompson, Director of Club Sports, and Paul Ryan, Assistant Director of Student Activities, for their support of the rugby teams. Milgrom added, "Dave Thompson has done wonderful things for the rugby team and club sports in general. We really owe him a big thanks"

Prior to the start of their Division III regular season schedule, the Exiles tested their mettle against two division II squads, Union and Hobart. The Exiles proved their worth, beating Union 24-0 and Hobart 36-0 in two of their closest games of the season.

Starting the regular season off with a bang, the Exiles took on Paul Smiths, one of their most formidable opponents, on September 22. The Exiles crushed Paul Smiths 56-0 in what came to be a normal fashion for the season. The squad went on to defeat Potsdam 82-0 on September 29.

On October 6, the Exiles traveled to SUNY Oneonta where they defeated the Red Dragons 34-3. The Red Dragons were the only team to score on the Exiles the entire regular season, scoring three points on a penalty kick. The fact that the Exiles have not allowed a single try (rugby's equivalent of a touchdown) to be scored against them is incredibly impressive. "This does not mean teams haven't gotten extremely close." Rowe explained, "The reason our goal line is so good is that we refuse to give up; each player refuses to quit on his teammates."

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The Exiles then went on to beat Syracuse University's Division III squad 62-0 in front of an intense home crowd. Milgrom praised the crowd remarking, "One instrumental part of our success has been the support we've received from the student body. I can't emphasize the magnitude of a difference home field advantage has been for us. Our fans are great."

In the final game of the regular season, the Exiles took on Clarkson University. As both teams were undefeated in their conference prior to the match up, it was a very important game for both teams. The Exiles stepped up to the challenge, defeating the Golden Knights 46-0, and securing the #1 seed in the Eastern division of the New York State Rugby League. The Exiles will take on University of Buffalo's Division III squad on Saturday at 1 p.m. on Minor Field. "This game should be intense," promises Milgrom, "Bring your popcorn. We're going to put on a show."

Rugby 101:

Game: divided into two 40 minute halves

Teams: 15 members on the field at a time

Forwards - strong men on the front lines

Backs - sleak, faster running players

Scrum: "huddle" formed by the eight forwards from each team binding together in three rows

Ruck: formed when one or more players from each side bind onto each other with the ball on the ground between them. Players must use their feet to hook the ball backwards towards their own side where it is picked up by a back

Scoring

Try: equivalent to a touchdown, but in order to score, the ball must literally be "touched down" in the try zone

Conversion Kick: worth 2 points - follows a try; must be kicked from a point parallel to where the ball was put down for the try

Penalty Kick: worth 3 points - is kicked from where the penalty was committed

*For more rugby knowledge search "Rugby 101" on Youtube.com